MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 OCTOBER 1982

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil in Europe -- After meeting in Paris with Francois Mitterrand, President Amin al-Jumayyil said his talks with the French president made him optimistic about Lebanon's future, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil subsequently said in a news conference carried by the radio that he and Mitterrand have agreed to increase the size of the multinational force and widen its jurisdiction; they also decided to give UNIFIL in southern Lebanon greater importance and strength. UNIFIL will be called upon to assume additional responsibilities and to deploy over large parts of Lebanese territory, he added.

Al-Jumayyil reiterated his demand for the immediate withdrawal of the Palestinians, Syrians and Israelis and asserted that Lebanon will soon recover its independence, sovereignty and its role in serving peace. This will not be an artificial peace which "they" sometimes want to impose on Lebanon, he added, Regarding financial aid to help rebuild his country, Al-Jumayyil said that Lebanon is seeking investment funds from friendly countries and that large Lebanese consortiums have decided to help. According to AFP, President Mitterrand pledged political, economic and military aid to Lebanon.

During the press conference, Al-Jumayyil also noted the presence at his side or Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and said that despite their political differences, he and Junblatt agree on the need to protect democracy and liberty in Lebanon. AFP said the two men marked their reconciliation by shaking hands.

President al-Jumayyil is due to arrive in Italy on 21 October for the last phase of his foreign tour, Beirut radio noted. Meanwhile, ANSA reported that a bomb explosion damaged the Lebanese Embassy in Rome. Police are searching for two women seen leaving the building shortly before the blast.

Israeli, Syrian Comment on Al-Jumayyil -- There is growing disappointment in Jerusalem over President al-Jumayyil's rejection of Israel's proposals for security arrangements, Jerusalem radio reported. Al-Jumayyil told U.S. leaders that the IDF should leave Lebanon before the Syrians and that he is unwilling to sign an agreement with Israel over security arrangements, the radio said. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Israeli Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said Al-Jumayyil is committing a "grave mistake" by turning his back on Israel.

Meanwhile, Damascus radio praised Al-Jumayyil for foiling Israeli attempts to exploit its occupation to achieve political and military gains.

Palestinian Camps -- In a message to Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the PLO has demanded the reconstruction of Palestinian camps destoyed during the Israeli invasion and the release of Palestinians recently detained by the Lebanese Army, MENA reported. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio noted that the Lebanese authorities are preventing the Israeli commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacres from entering the Sabra and Shatila camps.

PLO

Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, told TAP after a meeting with a Tunisian official that the proposed Jordanian-Palestinian confederation detracts from the first step of forming an independent Palestinian state, Tunis radio reported. He stated that Arab countries should pressure the United States into recognizing Palestinian rights and strongly criticized the U.S. refusal to meet a PLO member. In another development, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP leader George Habash, Damascus radio noted.

After meeting with Saudi King Fahd in Jidda, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat went to Abu Dhabi, according to SPA and WAKH.

Egypt on Relations With Israel

At a press conference on 20 October between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and visiting Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, carried by Cairo radio, Mubarak denied any knowledge of plans by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to invade the Sinai if Egypt had broken diplomatic relations with Israel during the Lebanese crisis -- plans which were alleged to exist by Israeli opposition leader Peres. Mubarak stressed that he hoped this threat was untrue and explained that Egypt withdrew its ambassador to Israel for consultations as a sign of "dissatisfaction" with the developments in Lebanon. Meanwhile, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah told the Doha paper AR-RAYAH that Israel would "not dare" take military action against Egypt anyway because the "price would be high."

Libya

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will soon visit the PRC, thus marking a reconciliation between Libya and China, AFP reported citing a diplomatic source.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces stopped an attempted Iraqi offensive in the western battle sector on 19 October and Iranian artillery damaged Iraqi oil installations, an Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio asserted. Meanwhile, an Iraqi communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed 31 Iranians were killed in the central sector.

Iran

During a meeting between Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his visiting Turkish counterpart Ilter Turkmen, a revised air transport agreement was signed and Velayata said in response to Turkey's call for an end to the Iran-Iraq war that this is an "imposed" war and the fighting by Iran is in "legitimate defense," IRNA reported.

In another development, also according to IRNA, president 'Ali Khamene'i revealed after a Cabinet meeting that ministerial changes are imminent.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB DELEGATION PREPARES TO DEPART FOR U.S.

Boucetta, Khalid al-Hasan Meet

LD201402 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Rabat, Oct 20 (MAP) -- Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan state minister of foreign affairs, met with Mr Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian movement "Fatah" and chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations of the Palestinian National Council (parliament).

Mr al-Hasan is in Morocco where from he will leave for Washington to represent the Palestine Liberation Organization "PLO" within the seven-member committee formed by the Arab summit of Fes. Talks between Mr Boucetta and Mr al-Hasan dealt with the works of the committee and the evolution of the Palestinian cause. The meeting was attended by PLO representative in Morocco, Mr Abu Marwan [Yasin Fawwaz].

Klibi Statement

LD201352 Rabat MAP in English 1212 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Rabat, Oct 20, (MAP) -- Mr Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League arrived on Tuesday evening in Rabat. Mr Klibi will accompany the Arab delegation that is to head for the United States under the chairmanship of King Hassan II of Morocco.

In a statement to newsmen, Mr Klibi said that he came to Morocco to accompany this Wednesday King Hassan II on his trip to the United states where he is to lead the Arab delegation for talks on the Middle East with the American Administration and the U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He estimated that the visit of the delegation headed by King Hassan II will open new perspectives to the joint Arab action to explain the Palestinian cause in light of the Arab peace plan and to attempt to convince the international public opinion of the fact that there would be no lasting peace in the region without conforming to the rules of justice, morale and right.

HABIB CHATTI ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR, ARAB COMMITTEE

LD210910 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0757 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Oct (SPA) -- Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti announced that the Islamic Good-offices Committee to end the Iraq-Iran war will add some new proposals to its old plan in order to make it compatible with the wishes of both the Iraqi and Iranian sides and in order to facilitate negotiations aimed at the establishment of permanent peace between the two sides.

In a statement to AL-MADINAH published today, Chatti reaffirmed that the committee wants to end the war with a lasting peace and, by convincing (?both sides) of the need to end this war, to realize justice and permanent peace between them without any side exploiting the weakness of the other. He said the committee wants an agreement to be reached which does not contain hidden intentions to seek revenge and which is remote from military solutions

Chatti also talked about the U.S. refusal to receive a PLO representative within the seven-member committee of the Fes conference. He expressed regret for this refusal. He said the refusal represents a gross mistake -- the United States should have accepted a committee representing an Arab summit conference without paying much attention to the composition of the committee, because it represents the Arab bloc which is supported by the Islamic bloc.

Chatti called on the committee to seek a solution to this dispute and to discuss the matter with the United States. He said it should not leave matters to the Zionist entity alone with the United States; he said contact should be maintained with the United States on this matter.

Chatti then dealt with the Jordanian-Palestinian talks on the establishment of a confederation. He said he will approve whatever the PLO decided because the PLO is the party concerned with the matter; he expressed support for whatever the PLO approves in this connection. He talked about cooperation between the Arab and Islamic groups and said that such cooperation benefits both sides to a very large extent. He praised the Islamic Conference Organization's support for the Arab bloc and said it is significant and very effective.

HAWATIMAH REJECTS CONFEDERATION WITH JORDAN

LD202016 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Mongi Kooli, minister attached to the prime minister and director of the Destourian Socialist Party, this afternoon met with Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], in the presence of the PLO representative in Tunisia.

Following the meeting Hawatimah told TAP that the talks covered fraternal relations between the Palestinian and Tunisian peoples and forms of solidarity among them as part of the contribution to strengthening the capabilities of the Palestinian Revolution and the guaranteeing of the phased rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, their return to their homeland and the setting up of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Nayif Hawatimah said: We have sensed a great Tunisian readiness to provide all necessary help. Tunisia is temporarily playing host to headquarters and cadres of the Palestinian forces as a prelude to the reassembling of these forces in places close to the occupied Palestinian territories. Hawatimah added that the fraternal solidarity he sensed during his meeting with Mongi Kooli reflects the honorable attitude of the entire Tunisian people toward the Palestinian Revolution and their struggle for the establishment of international legitimacy with regard to national Palestinian rights.

Replying to a question about a possible meeting soon of representatives of the various factions of the Palestinian Revolution, Hawatimah said that meetings of the Palestinian command take place whenever the need demands, and in an Arab capital. He added: We are preparing for a new session of the Palestine National Council. This necessitates a series of meetings of the Palestinian leadership.

Replying to a question about the proposed Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, Hawatimah said: We are struggling in the first place for the sake of our people's rights to set up their independent national Palestinian state on their own soil. Following the establishment of this fully sovereign state, the representatives of its people would discuss the form of their relations with Jordan and neighboring Arab countries. For this reason any attempt to fetter our people with a confederation formula with the Jordanian authority constitutes a detraction from our people's right to set up their own independent state and a destruction of this right before it materializes.

Hawatimah expressed his belief that all detachments of the Palestinian Revolution are agreed, within the framework of the PLO, on a unified stand based on the creation of the independent state first, and on then leaving it for the Palestinian people to decide whatever they want after that.

On the U.S. Government's refusal to accept the inclusion of a PLO member in the Arab seven-member committee which will be received by the U.S. President on Monday, Hawatimah said that this proves the U.S. Administration's unjustified and nonobjective animosity toward the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination and independence, and toward their sole legitimate representative. Hawatimah felt that the Arab countries should adopt a series of political and economic measures to prompt the U.S. Administration into recognizing the rights of the Palestinians.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR: PLO TO REMAIN IN AL-BIQA'

PM201142 Paris LE MATIN in French 15 Oct 82 p 11

[Interview with Fatah leader Khalil al-Wazir, under the nom de guerre Abu Jihad, by Philippe Cazeel in Amman -- date not given]

[Excerpts] LE MATIN: Are you hoping that the Labor Party will return to power in Israel?

Abu Jihad: The Labor Party program makes provision for the PLO's destruction. Begin is massacring us with a grimace and Peres will do it with a smile. The difference between them is the difference between Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola.

LE MATIN: In those circumstances, what decisions will you have to take in the immediate future?

Abu Jihad: We must increase the Palestinian Revolution's unity. We are going to propose a plan aimed at placing all our forces scattered throughout the Arab world under a single leadership. External divisions must be reflected within. We must have a single spokesman.

LE MATIN: The past few months have seen a new upsurge in terrorism, particularly anti-Jewish terrorism, in the countries that have moved close to you like Austria, France and now Italy. Whom do you blame?

Abu Jihad: Mosad (the Israeli secret service).

LE MATIN: However, the agents do not seem to be Israelis....

Abu Jihad: The affair is in the hands of the governments concerned. For its part, the PLO is waging its battle in Israel, in the occupied territories, on the battlefield and nowhere else.

LE MATIN: Black June, Abu Nidal's [Hasan al-Banna] organization, is often blamed for those attacks.

Abu Jihad: It is not part of the PLO. It is not a Resistance organization but the tool of secret services -- you know which ones.

LE MATIN: With regard to Lebanon, on what conditions are you prepared to withdraw your troops from Al-Biqa'?

Abu Jihad: We will remain. We will remain even if the Syrians and Israelis withdraw. We are going to negotiate the conditions governing our military presence with the Lebanese Government. We will not return to the situation that prevailed previously, when the refugees were the victims of torture and murder committed by the Lebanese Army.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR GRANTS INTERVIEW TO EL PAIS

PM201139 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Oct 82 p 4

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of PLO forces, by "I.C." on 13 October in Amman]

[Text] "Do not take literally everything that is published about the PLO's relations with Damascus, and know that, although our view points do not coincide, we are doing everything within our power to have minimally normal relations with Syria," the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces asserted, apparently anxious to play down the tension between the regime of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Palestinian organizations.

"It happens," he added, "that our desire for independence is sometimes misinterpreted. Some Arab regimes give priority to the reports of their secret services, which perhaps play an excessively important role in the Arab world, rather than to our explanations. Then they imagine that we are allying ourselves with some people against others, which is untrue. But, he emphasized, even through risking being misinterpreted and despite inter-Arab rivalries, we believe it is our right to travel from Damascus to Amman, from Algiers to Rabat, from San'a' to Aden and so forth."

Question: Relations between the Palestinian Resistance and Hafiz al-Asad now seem sufficiently bad for the PLO to hesitate for the first time to convene the meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC, parliament-in-exile) in Damascus....

Answer: We are hesitating among four capitals -- Tunis, Algiers, Kuwait and Damascus -- for a meeting in November. We will choose in accordance with the invitations given to us, the political circumstances and the guarantees of working independently which we secure. Even if we have problems with the Syrians, Damascus is not a discounted venue. We also had problems previously, and did not on that account cease going there or holding PNC meetings there.

Question: Irrespective of the Syrian verbal attacks against some Palestinian leaders, a terrorist with Arab support -- Abu Nidal [Hasan al-Banna] -- is harming the PLO's image with his attacks, such as that perpetrated against the Israeli ambassador in London in June, or that which cost a Kuwaiti diplomat's life in Madrid in September. Who is behind Abu Nidal?

Answer: The secret services of some Arab countries which I will not name but which the press knows only too well. We have asked Iraq and Syria not to facilitate his activity, but our efforts have been unsuccessful.

Question: Could you have recourse to nondiplomatic means to prevent his terrorist activity from besmirching the Palestinian cause?

Answer: No, I will not tell you that we are going to kill him, even though we sentenced him to death almost 10 years ago. Moreover, I believe that the European governments and even public opinion fully realize that Abu Nidal was nothing to do with us; we fight only on the battlefield. [answer ends]

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] played down the communique issued in Damascus in which four Palestinian groups belonging to the PLO rejected point seven of the Fes Arab summit, which involves an implicit recognition of the State of Israel's right to exist. "We live under a system of democracy within the PLO, and, even if we disagree, everybody ultimately heeds the decision of the organization's Executive Committee approving the Fes resolution."

"Now" (Wednesday evening), he added, "new disagreements have arisen, according to the BBC and Monte Carlo radio, which assert in their newscasts that 7 of the 15 PLO Executive Committee members have condemned in Damascus the talks held in Amman between King Husayn and 'Arafat. In the first place, there are not seven members of the Executive Committee in Damascus, and I have just spoken on the telephone with those who could not come here, and they had been wrongly informed that in Amman 'Arafat and King Husayn had given nothing less than their approval to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan. I denied the report, and matters returned to normal."

Question: You deem greater coherence necessary in the activity of the various groups belonging to the PLO.

Answer: That is why we have plans for strengthening the political unity of the PLO's various currents which will be sumbitted to the next PNC meeting and which envisage, for instance, a harmonization of information. [answer ends]

When it was suggested to him that the PLO could make in Jordan -- by increasing, as Husayn and 'Arafat have agreed, the PLO forces and equipping them with heavy arms -- the same mistake it has already made in Lebanon, in setting up an army incapable of defeating Israel but sufficiently strong to be regarded by Tel Aviv as a provocation, Abu Jihad replied that, "Even though some Arab countries assert that weakness is their best defense, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon -- a country virtually lacking an army -- demonstrates the contrary. Israel would not dare to bomb the Iraqi nuclear reactor at Tammuz, to violate Arab airspace by making reconnaissance flights, or to sail in with its patrol boats if some Arab countries had not disregarded the military option."

He showed little interest in the Reagan peace plan, because, even though it mentions the need to freeze the setting up of new Jewish population settlements in the occupied territories, "all this is secondary in relation to the denial of our right to self-determination and to the creation of an independent state."

Muhammad Milhim, mayor of the West Bank locality of Jalul, now an exile in Amman following his expulsion from the West Bank by Israel, could not withhold a discreet smile when from the corner of the room in which he was following the interview he heard these words from Abu Jihad. A few hours earlier he had told us that "the PLO is examining the possibility of reaching a formula...which will synthesize the Reagan plan and the Fes summit resolution."

"Moreover," Abu Jihad added, "how are we to believe the word of a President who asks Israel to freeze the setting up of new settlements and does not react when has he no sooner expressed his request than the setting up of seven more is announced in Israel?"

"When on Saturday 18 September, U.S. NBC and BBC television teams took us to Damascus to ask for our reactions to the first pictures of the monstrous massacre of thousands of innocent Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps, I remembered that letter with the letterhead of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, dated 19 August, signed by Reagan's envoy Philip Habib and addressed to Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. It states that, on the basis of the guarantees received from Israel, the U.S. Government trusts that the Israeli Government will not interfere in the implementation of the plan for the PLO's evacuation from Lebanon...and will guarantee the security of the other people in the area." Abu Jihad handed us a photocopy of the letter. "We should not have trusted the word given by Reagan then, either," he stated gravely.

VENEZUELAN MINISTER DEFENDS PRODUCTION INCREASE

PA180441 Paris AFP in Spanish 1716 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Caracas, 17 Oct (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has stressed that his country is maintaining its sense of unity and discipline within OPEC, thus refuting charges that Venezuela is a factor of disintegration within the organization.

Venezuela has increased its oil production to 2 million barrels per day, coinciding with threats of withdrawal from OPEC by the Persian Gulf countries if such actions continue to be made by OPEC members.

Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuela energy and mines minister, responded to the charge by indicating that his country maintains an official position on the control of production by OPEC, but that it would be unfair to apply this policy unilaterally.

The minister said the industrialized countries are seeking to destroy OPEC's unity at this difficult moment in the oil markets. According to him, the international press agencies "echo these campaigns in part."

As for Venezuela's increased oil production, the minister said that after prices fell in March OPEC established a temporary production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels per day and that his country was the member that reduced production the most, by 350,000 barrels per day, while Saudi Arabia, the largest producer, reduced its products by only 237,000 barrels.

The minister said that at the subsequent OPEC meeting in July, Venezuela tried to fix production at 18 million barrels per day, in order to stabilize the market. There was no consensus, however, and the March agreement was no longer binding.

Calderon held that his country increased its production to meet its obligations to its customers. He added that Venezuela's current oil exports are fixed at 1,472,000 barrels per day.

The minister said that the current production of 2 million barrels per day compensates for the decline in sales in the second quarter this year. Calderon said: "It seems unfair to force Venezuela to restrict its production and exports, thus further aggravating its economic situation, when there are no commitments to OPEC to control oil.." He added: "In addition, we would have lost our customers."

KUWAITI OIL MINISTER ON OIL PRICES, GCC PROJECTS

LD161236 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0951 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Oct (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti minister of oil affairs, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, has said in an interview published by two Kuwaiti papers that all OPEC members, should adhere to the resolutions of the organization and prevent a major drop in oil prices in the future.

Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah said in the interview published by AL-WATAN and AL-ANBA' that "The Arabian Gulf countries are doing a great deal to protect OPEC and are prepared to bear the larger share of sacrifices to protect the organization because they believe in it and in its achievements." He went on to say that all members of the organization should adhere to its resolutions so that the Gulf countries "will be able to bear the larger burden of sacrifices to protect OPEC." Shaykh 'Ali warned against a drop in oil prices "which would be harmful to all members of OPEC," even those who adhere to the resolution. He said, "In the coming year, especially in the second quarter, we are heading for a drop in demand for OPEC oil."

Replying to a question on whether private interests of the OPEC countries are above collective interests, which prompts them to operate individually without considering the interests of others, the minister of oil affairs said: "Many of the countries have been overpowered by short-term individual interests, and even the long-term individual interests demand adherence to the OPEC resolutions." He said that "The Gulf countries, almost alone, have continued to adhere to and uphold OPEC resolutions."

Shaykh 'Ali praised the results of the GCC oil ministers meetings that ended in Salalah, Oman, last Thursday, and the permanent ministerial committee for petroleum affairs which, he said, "has achieved much despite the fact that it has only been in existence for a year."

He stated that there are a number of projects to be implemented which are presently in the study stage, namely, the construction of an oil refinery in Bahrain, in which Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain will be partners; methanol and cement projects in Bahrain; another refinery in Oman; another project for blending oils in Oman and a project to produce coke from heavy oil. He went on to say: "There is a project under study link up the gas distribution networks in the member states of the council and to exchange gas on a commercial basis.

The GCC comprises Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

He pointed out that the national petroleum companies are coodinating marketing, information exchange, training and refining and this brings benefits to each of the national companies.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC PORT OFFICIALS MEET IN RIYADH 20 OCTOBER

GF201014 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The conference of officials responsible for ports in the GCC countries resumed its second session at the GCC Secretariat in Riyadh today. The conference will discuss the topics on its agenda.

KUWAIT

IRAQI MINISTER ARRIVES, DELIVERS MESSAGE TO AMIR

LD201028 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Revolution Command Council and interior minister of the fraternal Republic of Iraq, arrived in Kuwait at 1115 today. He was welcomed on arrival by Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait, and an official of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department.

Our radio and television correspondent has learned that the Iraqi minister is carrying a message from His Excellency President Saddam Husayn to his brother, his highness the amir.

His highness the amir received Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Revolution Command Council and interior minister of the fraternal Republic of Iraq at 1145 today. The minister conveyed a message to his highness from his brother, His Excellency Staff Marshal President Saddam Husayn. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir and the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait.

ARAB TIMES COMMENTS ON STOCK MARKET CRISIS

GF171120 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 16 Oct 82 p 6

["Opinion" column by Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Temporary Crisis"]

[Text] In his speech to the National Assembly, H. H. the amir spoke of the crisis on the stock market as a temporary one and said that the government would solve it. The crown prince and prime minister, the finance minister and the minister of commerce spoke in similar terms, each affirming the government would resolve it. International financial circles did not lose confidence in the Kuwaiti market: There was no evidence of any shift in dealings.

The government's assessment came after comprehensive studies and discussions with government officials. Yet there are some who seek to transform the crisis from a financial one into a political one.

People should be aware that a just and proper solution is within the power of government. We have huge financial and oil reserves, more than capable of covering our expenditure for at least on hundred years, barring a third world war.

Those who are spreading pessimism are hallucinating, or are planning the economy while sitting back listening to jazz music. These people will not be the ones to compensate those affected by the crisis.

Those affected should rest assured that their rights will be protected, even if there is a delay while the government conducts its study into the whole affair.

We are living in a state with a just Constitution, not one pursuing the law of the Bedouins. The Constitution allows us to speak openly with optimism or pessimism.

If we try to turn the crisis into a political one, it is the ordinary citizen who will be the loser, and one day we will discover he was used a a tool of states with warring intent.

Kuwait has a strong economy and the government will not be hurt if it makes sacrifices for the rights of the people. After all, the national income belongs to the people and should be spent in the interest of those people.

All the evidence shows the crisis is not as big as some say, otherwise our financial establishments would shut up shop, and Kuwait would declare itself bankrupt.

OMAN

OIL MINISTER ON NEW OIL, MINERAL PROJECTS

GF161002 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari has stated that one of the most important decisions adopted by the third GCC oil ministers conference, which was held in Salalah, is to study the establishment of a refinery for refining oil and exporting it to the international market. He affirmed the importance of this project, which is of major importance to the Omani people and peoples of the region.

Regarding the projects of the Petroleum and Minerals Ministry and whether there are new oil discoveries in the sultanate, Sa'id Ahmad ash'Shanfari, in a statement to the radio correspondent said: On 24 October we will, with God's will, open a new oil field in the south, which we have named Raymah oil field. The production capacity of this field is between 10,000 and 40,000 barrels per day. The petroleum and minerals minister said: We hope, with God's will, to open a new oil field every year. He announced that an oil refinery with a daily production of 50,000 barrels will be opened next month. This refinery cost $125 million. It will have valuable significance in meeting the needs of the sultanate's domestic refined oil needs and the excess will be exported.

Regarding the possibility of reducing the price of local oil after the refinery goes into operation, the petroleum and mineral minister said this is the concern of the Trade and Industry Ministry. He said: We see that the importance of the refinery lies in stabilizing prices and processing oil locally. The minister added that a new national company was formed to be responsible for the refinery.

Regarding the future of oil in the sultanate, Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari said: Praised by the Lord, our annual discoveries surpass what we have consumed and we are still intensifying efforts to discover more oil. The petroleum and minerals minister went on to say: We would like to tell the Omani citizen that the future is auspicious due to the wise efforts exerted by His Majesty Sultan Qabus for the prosperity of his people.

Regarding the efforts of the Petroleum and Minerals Ministry in the mineral field, the minister said that the ministry is making strenuous efforts to discover the different minerals in the sultanate. One of the most important projects of the ministry in this regard is the copper development project in Suhar, where work on a copper refinery is about to be completed. It is hoped that this project will be opened on the coming national day. The minister affirmed that in addition to the economic advantages of this project, there are social advantages for the Omani citizen, the most important of which is jobs for about 500 citizens. This is one of the priorities of the wise policy of the government of his majesty. This vital project is accompanied by the establishment of a port and powerstation to feed the neighboring ares, in addition to the construction of a gas pipeline to operate the copper refinery.

SAUDI ARABIA

OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY DISPLEASED WITH U.S. STAND

JN191838 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Telephone dispatch by Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Riyadh 'Abdallah ash-Shihri -- live or recorded]

[Text] The U.S. Administration today informed the Saudi Government of its refusal to receive the PLO representative within the Arab seven-member committee that was assigned by the Fes summit to explain the Arab peace plan to the United States and other UN Security Council permanent member states. Informed sources here said that the U.S. position had provoked displeasure among Saudi officials who had been exerting intensive efforts over the past 2 days to persuade the U.S. officials to receive a Palestinian official within the delegation. These sources did not rule out the possibility that Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, or Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, may accompany the Arab delegation to New York where it will meet with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister and member of the Arab delegation, will leave Riyadh tomorrow for Washington to meet with President Ronald Reagan within the delegation. He is also expected to meet with his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz, and to discuss with him the developments in the region and Washington's true position on these developments.

YASIR 'ARAFAT LEAVES JIDDA 20 OCTOBER

LD201520 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1452 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 20 Oct (SPA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Jidda this afternoon. He was seen off at the airport by the acting commander of the western region, Major General Sudays, PLO representative Rafiq an-Nashtah and a number of other officials.

AL-JAZIRAH ON IMPORTANCE OF GCC ACHIEVEMENTS

PM201529 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 13 Oct 82 p 3

[Editorial: "On the Road to the Final Goal"]

[Excerpts] The GCC defense ministers have successfully concluded their conference, the outcome of which was an agreement on a unified defense strategy.

Today, the GCC oil ministers will begin their conference in Salalah which will be followed a few days later by the conference of interior ministers.

Thus we can see that the GCC, as a unity body, acts like a car dynamo that supplies all parts of the car with active energy.

Before the GCC was established cooperation between the Gulf states was not nonexistent or slack, nor was coordination between them lacking or weak. Cooperation did exist and so did coordination, but they were not up to the level aspired for by the leaderships and peoples of the region or the desired integration, solidarity and unity.

If the establishment of the GCC was designed to strengthen cooperation and develop the means and methods of contact and coordination among the leaders of the Gulf states and was a response by those leaders to their peoples' desire for unity, integration and solidarity, the structure of the council and its programs and plans to achieve those objectives have all been encompassed within a contemporary, progressive and realistic framework. The Arab Gulf masses in the GCC member states have expressed their loyalty and fealty to their ruling authorities, leaders and commanders in power, thereby blessing all the steps that have led to this contemporary and progressive formula for cooperation, coordination and unity in the political, economic, trade, information, security and military spheres.

Reaching agreement on a unified oil policy strategy at the oil conference that will open in Salalah today will be yet another major step toward a unified stand by the Arab Gulf community both within OPEC and on the international level in order to serve international economic objectives since oil plays a fundamental part in these objectives and in shaping relations between the GCC states and the industrial states. Also, agreement on a unified security plan at the interior ministers' conference which is to be held in the coming few days will be a third major step on the level of the internal fronts of the GCC states and peoples which will turn them into a unified front.

What is happening in the GCC member states these days at the level of cooperation between experts and ministers and at the level of leaders of the summit in Manama next month should be of interest to every individual in the Arab Gulf community and should arouse a sense of pride and dignity and even a feeling of strength and reassurance about the present and future generations. The ultimate target is to ensure social security, stability and peace for the community and enhance activity for the achievement of growth and prosperity.

RADIO COMMENTARY EXPRESSES HOPE FOR GULF UNITY

LD182036 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Hashim Abduh Hashim commentary]

[Text] From a security point of view, the six GCC countries could confirm their agreement on great common denominators as well as on various details. From the political angle, the current meetings of the GCC interior ministers represent the apex of full coordination for crystalizing objectives and defining practical means for the realization of these objectives in a collective and organized way. Strategically, the countries of the region provide for their people the maximum guaranteed level aimed at achieving stability to confront all current challenges -- the overt, expected ones or the covert ones -- as was expressed by His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz yesterday.

The consolidation of security as a fundamental basis for the construction of complete stability is often a source of annoyance to forces that desire the Gulf region remain open so that it can continue as a place for the polarization of all forces that have ambitions in it.

We in Saudi Arabia are aware of all these challenges and are aware that we are required to perform a great act. Creative plans and comprehensive activations, each dependent on the other, are needed so that we can pass through the many difficult tests that will confront us in the future.

The current situation in the region stresses a very important matter: the absence of integration and coordination amongst its countries has to a large extent contributed to create abnormal circumstances which allowed the spread of chaos, which allowed demagoguery to expand thescope of its dreams and which allowed those who hate this nation to harm it. When the Arabian Gulf countries get to the level of real confrontation as a result of what could be the outcome of these variables tomorrow, their peoples would avoid falling into the same tragedies now observed in much of the world map, especially in the Middle East.

We want to stress to the world that the Riyadh meeting has dealt with all possibilities and figured out the dimensions of the international game in the region, and has laid down strong and practical bases to confront all possibilities. External forces must be aware that any attempt to fool around with the security of the Gulf would be confronted with full force from now on. The capabilities of the six countries have been placed in the service of rapid action to confront any challenge -- whatever its motive and however dangerous -- without any hesitation or calculation of any consideration. The security of the Gulf comes first and the stability of the Gulf people comes before anything else. The future of the Gulf countries has become a responsibility, the neglect or shirking of which would be regarded as treason that we would not possibly allow or accept under any circumstances.

The six Arabian Gulf countries have been concerned about finding numerous means and wide channels for full coordination between them and their Arab brethren in order to realize the principle of security integration throughout the Arab homeland. We are not closed countries or countries with a strategy that is separate from the Arab region's part of the Arab community. We hope that objectives become united and opinions meet at a common understanding so that all Arab countries could move within the wider security strategy. This would begin with crushing the obvious interests of the foreign forces in the region and end with concentrating honest conviction of the necessity for a complete move towards joint action within the framework of the construction of an effectively independent Arab entity.

The talk that the Gulf countries have accomplished an important step within the scope of constructive Arab cooperation and coordination is true. It is confirmed by the honest intentions of exploiting every measure that confirms the united identity of the Gulf citizen, cares for it and protects it. However, this united identity does not mean the cheap exploitation of the opportunities for unified action by simplifying the measures. We, as states, peoples and security apparatus, are fully alert to any behavior from outside the countries of the region that might work against the will of our peoples and instigate difficulties for our homelands. Time will show that the unity of the Gulf countries springs from deep rooted (?qualities) and that the future is behind this good and secure grouping.

UAE

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI 20 OCTOBER

GF201822 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Oct (WAKH) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Abu Dhabi from Jidda tonight on a 1-day visit to the UAE. He was welcomed on arrival by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, UAE deputy prime minister; Maj Gen Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for interior affairs; and Anis al-Khatib, PLO representative in the UAE. 'Arafat's visit takes place within the framework of a tour of a number of countries in the region which so far includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Addresses Palestinians

GF210618 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Oct (WAKH) -- Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has stressed that the Palestinian Revolution will continue and that it is now stronger than it ever has been.

In a popular meeting with the Palestinian community in Abu Dhabi, Yasir 'Arafat said: "The military action will continue until the full demands and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are achieved." Yasir 'Arafat also spoke about the present and future of the Palestinian Revolution following Beirut's battles and the savage massacres that were perpetrated by the Zionist enemy in Lebanon and the practices that the Lebanese Army is carrying out against the Palestinian civilians and against the national Lebanese forces.

Yasir 'Arafat said he sent a message to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil through King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia appealing to him to stop these campaigns against the civilian residents.

Meets With Officials

GF210744 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Oct (WAKH) -- Official talks between UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, who is currently visiting the UAE, began this morning in Abu Dhabi.

The meeting was attended on the UAE side by Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, head of the UAE president's office; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Dr Mani' Sa'id al-Utaybah, minister of oil and mineral resources; and Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. It was attended on the Palestinian side by Mahmud 'Atallah (Abu az-Za'in); Mahmud al-Labadi, PLO official spokesman; and Anis al-Khatib, PLO representative in Abu Dhabi.

Nothing has been released about the topics to be discussed.

MUBARAK, SEKOU TOURE HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE 20 OCT

NC201545 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 20 Oct 82

[News conference held by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah on 20 October -- recorded with questions addressed to President Sekou Toure and his answers in French followed by Arabic translation]

[Text] [Radio's recording starts with the news conference in progress] Historic [words indistinct] President Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Guinean republic, the guest of the Egyptian president and people, and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, after their successful talks. In the name of God the merciful and compassionate, we begin the news conference:

[Mubarak] In the name of God the merciful and compassionate. We seize this opportunity and, in the name of the people of Egypt, we welcome His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure and the delegation accompanying him. I welcome him in Egypt, his second country. During his visit with us, we held several sessions of talks that dealt with bilateral relations. We also exchanged views on all matters that concern the Middle East as well as international issues. At today's session of talks. we exchanged views on the Iraq-Iran war. I again welcome President Sekou Toure and the delegation accompanying him. Thank you.

[Sekou Toure] In the name of God the merciful and compassionate [in Arabic]. Dear brother journalists. we are happy to meet with you. The world of the press is not strange to me. I have been a journalist since 1946. I used to manage the newspaper of the trade union [AN-NIQABAH]. I am still managing the political newspaper in my country. The world is becoming more and more aware of the need for contacts among the various sides. The press has a great responsibility to inform peoples. We cannot do anything without information. Journalism must work for the better transformation of society and mankind. Journalism must work for social progress. Journalism must express the wishes and aspirations of the people for progress. Journalism can or cannot serve the national interests. Therefore, it must always work for the achievement of the people's demands. I am now at your disposal, and I am fully prepared to answer all your questions. Thank you.

[Question by Shaykh Mukhtar Dayyarah on behalf of the African journalists union] President of the Guinean republic: Can the integration charter that has been signed by Egypt and Sudan constitute a basis for the establishment of integration between Guinea and Mali?

[Sekou Toure] Union [ittihad] between any two peoples is always a very important factor for the progress of these peoples and all of mankind. By taking a look at the past, mankind can derive lessons from it in order to be able to traverse the present and resolve the problems of the future. We are aware that in the past Egypt and Sudan were governed by one system. The existing authority at that time was not that of the people, but the two peoples succumbed to this authority that was imposed on them. But now, the two peoples are free and they can provide a new concept of freedom that works for their progress. This union will be very strong, especially because the Sudanese and Egyptian peoples hold the same spiritual and moral principles. They have the same historical heritage. They are free to establish a union in order to achieve happiness for every man and woman. We salute every decision designed to merge two peoples. As for Mali and Guinea, the two peoples were one people. Mali held the name of a great African empire from the 13th to the 18th or 19th century. [interruption by call to prayers] It [presumably the empire] embraced the present-day Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, the Republic of Guinea, the Ivory Coast and parts of Upper Volta and Niger.

That was the great empire of Mali. During the French colonial period, Mali was called French Mali and the Sudan was called Anglo-Saxon [Sekou Toure corrects himself and says Anglo-Egyptian.] If union is achieved between Egypt and the Sudan, this is regarded as a good example. As for Guinea and Mali, within the framework of their sovereignty, they should work for the achievement of a union. This will be one of the exigencies of history for union among peoples.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to address this to President Mubarak and President Sekou Toure: Both of you are in favor of good diplomatic relations and agree on the value of diplomatic relations. I am wondering, President Mubarak, it has been a month since you have recalled your ambassador in Israel and it has been some 2 or 3 months since Zaire moved to improve its relations with Israel. I wonder whether the two presidents could comment on the value of diplomatic relations and when you, Mr President Mubarak, intend to restore your ambassador to Israel and under what conditions, and whether the president of Guinea has a comment on the relationship [as heard] with Israel?

[Mubarak] My answer will be in Arabic [spoken in English]. Before the war, rather the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, began, we often advised Israel to exercise self-restraint and [told it] that any problems that might arise could be resolved by peaceful means and not by the use of force. But what Israel did with regard to Lebanon and the fighting that took place in Lebanon, and the massacre which followed in West Beirut, we did not approve of nor the principles involved. We sent word to Israel, sometimes in writing and at other times verbally, calling for its immediate withdrawal from Lebanese territory; but it did not respond to Egypt nor to any other international calls. After the Beirut massacre, we were forced to withdraw [sahb] our ambassador for consultations, as an indication of our dissatisfaction with the situation, with which no country in the world could agree. As for when the ambassador will return, it is premature to discuss it. Thank you.

[Question] Mr President Sekou Toure, I would like to ask about Zaire reestablishing diplomatic relations with Israel.

[Sekou Toure] Every state is free and sovereign. Within the framework of its institutions, every state can exercise its authority. If Zaire decides on restoring relations with Israel, it will be exercising its absolute sovereignty. If any other state does not approve of restoring its relations with Israel, then Zaire cannot blame it for such behavior. If every state and every people have their own special personality, then all peoples are free. If we look at the diplomatic corps of every state, we discover their composition is not the same; each state has its own character. If Guinea has decided not to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, it has its reasons. I respect the sovereignty of Zaire and Zaire respects the sovereignty of Guinea.

[Question] Mr President Husni Mubarak, you have always called for a dialogue between the United States and the PLO. Now that there is an opportunity for holding such a dialogue through the PLO's participation in the Fes summit delegation, the United States refuses to receive the representative of the PLO. The presence of the PLO representative, rather the PLO's acceptance of the Fes resolution, is to satisfy the United States' wish be recognizing, rather tacitly recognizing, Israel. This is in addition to the fact that the PLO has declared at the United Nations its acceptance of all UN resolutions. What is Your Excellency's comment on this situation and how do you see a way out of this vicious circle?

[Mubarak] The issue, that Egypt has always asked the United States to begin the dialogue with the Palestinians, is one that we have talked about and demanded more than once.

Starting this dialogue, however, is not that simple. There might be secret or unpublicized dialogue, but I cannot confirm it. I would have liked something that might help such a dialogue. In brief, after the Palestinians reached, or rather, after the sympathy of the world and world public opinion with the Palestinians following their departure from Beirut reached a very high point, we said more than once and still say that our Palestinian brothers must -- and there is still time -- move and exploit this sympathy in the interest of the Palestinian cause. I believe the PLO can recognize Israel in order to exploit this sympathy and also to place the real duty of the United States before it so the dialogue can begin. Regrettably, this sympathy has not been exploited at all. Therefore, the United States finds it difficult to begin the dialogue with the PLO, despite the fact that we demand the United States begin the dialogue with it. More comments regarding the United States and its nonacceptance, I believe is [words indistinct].

[Question] [MENA correspondent Mrs Inas Nur] Mr President, if you please, I have two questions.

[Mubarak interrupts] You can ask only one question.

[Inas Nur] I will ask them one after the other. The first question is for His Excellency President Sekou Toure. It is reported that you intend to exert mediation efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war. Does this mean that the mediation efforts are moving from the Arab to the African arena, taking into consideration the failure of the Arab efforts so far to end this conflict? What is your assessment of success in this respect?

[Mubarak] The question is not clear. I do not understand it.

[Unidentified speaker asks her to repeat the question]

[Inas Nur] It has been reported that His Excellency President Sekou Toure intends to undertake efforts....

[Mubarak interrupts] President Sekou Toure has actually been mediating and this has been known for a long time.

[Inas Nur] Yes, does President Sekou Toure expect to make progress in this respect, taking into consideration the failure of other efforts, including Arab efforts, to make any progress in this area?

[Sekou Toure] The role I am playing is within the framework of the Islamic peace committee. This committee was formed after the convening of the third Islamic Conference in 1981. This committee includes the Pakistani, Bangladesh, Malaysian, Turkish, Sengalese, Gambian and Guinean presidents as well as the Fatah leader. Since then, contacts have been made with the authorities of both countries. I have visited Baghdad and Tehran six times. Other contacts were made with the delegations of both countries in Conakry. I can tell you that it is a regrettable war which, in the first place, should not have broken out, because it harms the material resources of both countries as well as the citizens of both countries. Neither country will make any gain or score any victory out of this war, rather, both countries will lose. No matter how long this war drags on, neither of them will triumph over the other. Personal considerations, such as the conceit of either of them, must leave room for the supreme interests of both of them.

Our role is to represent the Arab nation [as heard]. We are not an arbiter. We do not want any sanctions to accompany any verdicts. The foundation on which the mediation efforts are based is the Koran, which is a complete and integrated doctrine. It represents a civilization that serves mankind and includes moral and ethical treasures that can show both countries which way they must follow.

Rulers begin wars and the people suffer from them. We appeal to both these countries to heed the Islamic and national consciousness to put an end to this war. We know the positions of both countries and are continuing the negotiations. In the name of the Islamic nation and on behalf of the Good Offices Committee, I have great hope to achieve peace. In the next few hours or days, there will be contacts in Baghdad and Tehran.

[Question] ['Awatif al-Kilani of Egyptian paper AL-AKHBAR] My question is addressed to Mr President Sekou Toure. In your capacity as an African leader and thinker, what is your assessment of the proposed initiatives for rsolving the Middle East problem -- President Reagan's initiative, the Fes summit initiative, the [Jordanian king] Husayn-'Arafat agreement and the Egyptian-French initiative? In your opinion, which of these initiatives is closer to a solution to the Middle East problem?

[Sekou Toure] The so-called peaceful solution in the Middle East is a solution sought by all peoples of the world. This solution is very clear. Everyone is aware of the reality. However, it is regrettable that reality cannot defend itself; men are responsible for defending it. People are not in agreement. Every person presents part of the facts as being the tull facts. You knew what the solution was before you asked your questions. Israel has attacked an Arab country and is occupying an Arab country. It must have sufficient courage to withdraw from the Arab countries. The Arab countries also must have sufficient courage to recognize Israel as an established fact. The State of Israel has been in existance for 34 years. If we carry out a demographic survey of all the countries in the area, we will discover that 85 percent of the population was born during the past [words indistinct] years. Let us say that six persons were born in that period in each of these countries. If one of them had witnessed the establishment of Israel, the other six [as heard] will have been born after the establishment of this state. This fact must be recognized. If we have given Israel the right to establish a state, it is because the Jews had suffered from annihilation. However, we cannot forget the fact that Palestine was a homeland for the two races. There are Arab Palestinians and Jewish Palestinians. The Arab Palestinians did not expel the Jewish Palestinians. It was not the Arab Palestinians who had persecuted the Jews throughout the world. It was not the Arabs who had exterminated the Jews in the period from 1939 to 1944. If we have given the Jews the right to exist after having suffered from injustice, we cannot rectify injustice by another injustice. Therefore, the Palestinians have a right to a state and must live on the territory of their homeland. If we suppose that Israel agrees to this, that would mean neighborliness in the Middle East and will encourage the establishment of a soldiarity alliance [hilf], in this area among all the peoples of the area.

Those who are intelligent enough to look to the future, realize that they must accept this reality and adopt a decision for a comprehensive solution. This means dialogue with Israel. It is very natural that in the wake of the Fes conference, the delegation should include the Fatah [as heard] organization. If this delegation does not include the Fatah organization, it would be said that only the Arabs want the dialogue and this will be an excuse [sentence as heard]. Fatah's participation in this delegation is a clear indication that the Arabs have the goodwill to establish a dialogue. Therefore, the world press must support the Fes initiative in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace. It is in the interest of Israel, its friends and the Arabs and their friends to achieve peace. This will be regarded as a victory for all mankind.

[Question] Mr President, President Sekou Toure. Your record, as one of the founding members of the OAU, is outstanding. You have played a very important role in the OAU. Now that the OAU is falling apart will be to achieve to the Africans. [sentence as heard]. Your visit to Cairo with your Brother President Mubarak is [word indistinct]. Can we as Africans take refuge or relief in the fact that your visit with your brother and colleague will result in solving the problems of the OAU in order to make our organization remain intact because we are confident that your visit here will be [words indistinct]. Please comment if you will be able to discuss the OAU problem presently to [word indistinct] our organization. Thank you.

[Sekou Toure] I will now talk about he OAU and its future. The crisis being experienced by the OAU is also being experienced by the whole African continent. I will not talk about the whole process that has brought the OAU to this crisis. I will not comment on the attitude of each party. I will only say that the OAU is very essential for Africa's progress. It is the framework for consultations. It is an arena for the exchange of African views. We are doing everything in our power to save the OAU. We will try to take advantage of the intelligence of the African states and the wisdom of our continent in order to overcome the crisis.

[Question] ['Abdallah Schrieber of NBC] My question is to President Mubarak. Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres said recently that he believes Prime Minister Begin intended to invade the Sinai if Egypt had broken diplomatic relations with Israel at the height of the Lebanese crisis. Would you comment on that?

[Mubarak] First, we absolutely have not received such a threat nor were we informed of such things. We heard about it from certain newspapers. Since we have not received such a threat, nor was it addressed to us, nor have we heard about it from Prime Minister Begin on radio, this might have been within the framework of the internal conflict in Israel. However, I would like to say that I hope this is absolutely untrue. I also hope this is not a subject used against Egypt as an insinuation of war for one reason or another. I would like to make it completely clear that Egypt is an independent and sovereign state and can make its own decision in accordance with its interests. No one on earth can force a state to establish or abrogate diplomatic ties with another country, because this concerns a state's sovereignty. Nothing of this sort has reached me and I hope Israel will under no circumstances resort to such talk. We have embarked on a peace process and we mean peace. Beating the drums of war is something that all who want peace must not do. Any independent and sovereign state, however weak or strong, cannot accept any threat from any other country, not even from a superpower. Thank you.

[Question] [Mrs Ibstisam al-Mistikawi of the Cairo newspaper AT-TA'AWUN] My question is addressed to Mr President Ahmed Sekou Toure. What is your assessment of the Soviet attitude toward the situation in the Middle East, particularly the Iraqi-Iranian war and the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Sekou Toure] I am not aware of the attitude adopted by the Soviet Union. If you are aware of it, please inform me of it.

[Unidentified speaker] At the end of this conference, we thank Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Sekou Toure Departs

NC210804 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Oct (MENA) -- Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure left Cairo this morning following a 4-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. He was seen off at the airport by President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, deputy prime ministers, ministers and members of the Guinean Embassy staff in Cairo.

MENA has learned that President Sekou Toure left for Khartoum, where he will stop over for a few hours. He will then leave for Jidda, where he will meet tomorrow with members of the Islamic Good Offices Committee to discuss ways of ending the Iraq-Iran war. In light of tomorrow's meeting of the committee, it will be decided whether he will leave for Baghdad and Tehran.

DEFENSE MINISTER RESPONDS TO PERES STATEMENT

GF201612 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 18 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Egypt strongly warned Israel in reply to the announcement of Shim'on Peres, Israeli opposition leader, that Menahem Begin's government had warned Egypt that it will resort to military operations against it if Cairo breaches the Camp David accords.

In an exclusive statement made to AR-RAYAH yesterday, 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, was the first Egyptian official to react to the Israeli statement. He said:

First, what Peres said never happened. Second, regarding the possibilities of Israeli aggression against Egypt, Egypt has made a political decision to maintain peace and because peace for Egypt is a vital strategic target now and in the future, we have no thoughts to the contrary.

However, I want also to say something important to Peres and others: The Israeli Government would not dare take military action against Egypt because the price would be high. Egypt is not Lebanon or Syria. I reiterate that Egypt is not Lebanon or Syria. We will not be subjected to aggression from any source.

In reply to another question from AR-RAYAH, Abu Ghazalah said the peace agreement does not enfetter Egypt's will and that is why it has no influence on the establishment of united Arab strategy, particularly after the Arab summit conference in Fes decided to adopt peaceful means to resolve the Middle East crisis. Therefore, the peace agreement cannot enfetter Egypt's will. On the contrary, we want to start from the current peace situation in order to begin preparations for the future and anticipate what could happen within 10 years. We must start immediately because if we wait until the Arabs establish a united security strategy and a determined strong and coherent security arrangement, then the situation will become more dangerous after 10 years because I expect that the tension will increase. We must be strong from now on to confront these dangers.

The Egyptian defense minister in his exclusive statement to AR-RAYAH said: We believe in the strategy of deterrence to prevent aggression and also believe that the Arab nation must possess a capable deterrent force because it possesses all necessary capabilities -- human, economic and military. In my opinion, Egypt is the most qualified of all Arab countries to possess a deterrent force to create a balance in the region. The day that balance occurs and the deterrence is acknowledged I assure you no country will be able to invade, attack or prepare aggression against another country in our Arab region.

GREEK MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS ON COOPERATION

Talks Begin

JN191442 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Oct (INA) -- Official talks between Iraq and Greece began in Baghdad today. The Iraqi side to the talks was headed by Muhammad Fadl Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction, and the Greek side was headed by Apostolos Tsokhatzopoulos, minister of public works.

During the talks, the Iraqi minister expressed Iraq's desire to strengthen cooperation with Greece and welcomed the participation of Greek companies in implementing Iraqi development projects.

The Greek minister praised Iraq's position regarding a peaceful end to the Iraq-Iran war and its cooperation with all international bodies and organizations in efforts to end this war.

The two sides discussed bilateral cooperation in road and bridge building and the possible participation of Greek companies in implementing Iraqi development projects.

Confers With Ramadan

JN191944 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received Apostolos Tsokhatzopoulos, Greek minister of public works. Ramadan asserted during the meeting that Iraqi-Greek relations are historical and good, and have been noticeably developed over the past few years.

He expressed confidence that these relations would be greatly promoted and developed in the future in all fields in the interests of the people of the two friendly countries.

Ramadan expressed Iraq's satisfaction with Greece's attitude toward Arab issues, particularly the Iraq-Iran war and the Palestinian cause. He said that Iraq loves peace, works for its realization and refuses to let anyone interfere in its internal affairs or encroach on its sovereignty and revolution. He said that Iraq also seriously works to prevent the enemies from realizing their expansionist aggressive aims.

Ramadan asked the Greek minister to convey his greetings to Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, affirming Iraq's desire to reach formulas aimed at expanding the scope of bilateral cooperation.

The Greek minister conveyed greetings to President Saddam Husayn and to Taha Yasin Ramadan from the Greek prime minister. He said that his visit to Iraq at this particular time showed Greece's stand of solidarity with Iraq, which is waging a just war against the Iranian regime, and expressed the profound friendly relations between the two friendly countries and the serious desire of Greece of expand and develop these relations in the interest of the two peoples.

The minister expressed the Greek Government's appreciation of Iraq's sincere and serious position vis-a-vis an end to the Iraq-Iran war by peaceful means, asserting that an insistence on prolonging the war and rejection of the various peaceful endeavors would only serve Zionist and imperialist interests.

He expressed admiration for and appreciation of the Iraqi Government's efforts for the progress and advancement of Iraq, particularly the numerous projects that are being implemented during wartime.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad Fadl Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction, the Greek Public Works Ministry under secretary and the Greek ambassador in Baghdad.

Papandreou Message Delivered

JN201134 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn today received a written message from Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou on bilateral relations.

The message was delivered to Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi by Apostolos Tsokhatzopoulos, Greek minister of public works, during their meeting here today.

FURTHER ON SUDANESE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Visits Battlefront

JN201804 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 20 Oct (SUNA) -- Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president and head of Sudan's delegation currently visiting Iraq, today visited the central sector of the battlefield opposite the Iranian enemy to observe the positions of the Iraqi Armed Forces. The vice president observed the high morale of these forces.

The vice president praised the high morale of the Iraqi forces. In a statement at the sector's headquarters, the vice president said that units of the Sudanese Armed Forces would arrive shortly to repulse the treacherous Iranian enemy, who had responded to none of the Arab, Islamic or international mediations.

The vice president praised Iraqi President Saddam Husayn for his interest in and concern for the Iraqi Armed Forces and said that he would convey to President Numayri all that he had seen at the front.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

JN202157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2120 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA) -- Iraq and Sudan tonight signed four agreements to further develop their joint relations in varous spheres.

The first agreement stipulates cooperation and coordination among the various popular and trade organizations, unions and societies in the two fraternal countries. The agreement also calls for immediate implementation of its procedures in both countries and for signing agreements on cooperation, coordination and renewing other agreements signed in the past and putting them into practice in order to accomplish aspired-for pan-Arab objectives.

The second agreement, which includes the minutes of promoting bilateral economic and commercial relations, calls for doubling the trade exchange by facilitating the import and export of each country's goods and products.

This agreement also stipulates further developing and expanding joint technical and scientific cooperation by granting scholarships in various fields, training in agriculture and industry, exchanging experts and expertise and trading research and scientific documents.

The third agreement, which also includes joint minutes, stipulates holding training courses for Sudanese technical instructors, cooperating in health and work safety, organizing training courses for textile and oil workers, exchanging experts in social care, coordinating at Arab labor organization conferences and exchanging expertise in legislation, particularly in relation to social care and labor areas.

The fourth agreement includes a protocol for joint cooperation between the Iraqi Ministry of Youth and the Sudanese National Sports Council for the years 1982-84 and, consequently, bolstering cooperation between youth and sports organizations in both countries.

COMMUNIQUE NO 877: 168 IRANIANS KILLED 18-19 OCT

JN191733 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Communique No 877 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With our immortal revolutionary principles, our sublime human values and the spirit of our great forefathers, the sons of the Tigris and Euphrates are continuing their confrontation of the covetous invaders of the Khomeynite clique, affirming their ability to defend the dear homeland and preserve the dignity of the Iraqi people and the Arab nation. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Last night and today, the rancorous enemy attempted to send groups of its soldiers toward our forward positions in the central sector of the front. Our alert forces confronted the enemy soldiers, clashed with them using various weapons and were able to defeat them, forcing them to retreat and withdraw from the battlefield after sustaining a great number of casualties, among which were known to be 163 dead, a number of men captured and 4 vehicles, 1 gun and a number of medium and light weapons destroyed.

2. Our daring air force today attacked enemy positions and concentrations east of At-Tib in Mayzan sector and other military targets deep inside enemy territory. Our planes scored direct, effective hits and returned safely to base.

3. One of our units sighted an enemy concentration in front of our positions east of Basra. Pounding the enemy position, our forces killed five and destroyed one armored personnel carrier, three weapons and troop assembly points and three hardware stockpiles.

4. One vehicle was destroyed in the area east of At-Tib in Mayzan sector.

5. The arrogant Iranian regime's artillery shelled Khanaqin, Mandali and Zurbatiyah today causing the martyrdom of a child, injuring her brother and damaging residential buildings.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 October 1982

TEXT OF MARWAN AL-QASIM AL-QABAS INTERVIEW

GF200444 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Oct 82 p 17

[Continuation of interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Marwan al-Qasim by AL-QABAS correspondent Anita Sanokijyan in New York -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you see an Iranian threat? What is the effect of the long Iran-Iraq conflict? What does this mean to Jordan?

[Answer] The conflict affects Jordan and the entire region and is a negative factor for tranquility and stability in the Middle East. It is regrettable to see two important Islamic countries, one of which is an Arab country and the other a non-Arab country, at war. It is also regrettable to see the tragic results of this war on both countries. The whole world considers this a vital region. Some people look at this region from a strategic point of view while others look at it from an economic point of view, and there are other people who place great hopes on the great future of this region. However, we in Jordan see that this war has occurred as a result of the ambitions of the Iranian rulers in expansionism and in expanding their control over neighboring countries. Iraq is not their only target, but is their greatest objective because it is the only force that is capable of confronting them. If Iraq submits to the Iranian expansion which is supported by Islamic claims, the results will be dangerous for all.

[Question] Do you think that Jordan's military support for Iraq will increase? I have noticed that the Iranians are continuously attacking Jordan and they criticized Jordan's role during the discussion of the Iran-Iraq conflict when its representative was chairman of the Security Council.

[Answer] Jordan abides by the international princples and the rules of the UN Charter. If Iran were chairman of the Security Council and if I had an issue to present to the council I would not have stayed away if I really shouldered my responsibility as a member of the United Nations. I will not stay away if Iran becomes chairman of the council.

[Question] Do you explain the Iranians' behavior as such because they feel that Jordan represents a threat to them?

[Answer] No, we do not threaten anyone. Our present stand is not the first time that Jordan has adopted such a stand and it is not the first time that Jordan has carried out its commitments to joint Arab defense both to the letter and in spirit. This is the reason that led us to join others in Tunisia, and on another occasion we had troops in Oman. Therefore, our stand toward the Iraq-Iran war is not isolated from the previous stands.

[Question] Will the Jordanian role in support of Iraq increase?

[Answer] The situation on the Iraqi battlefront is reassuring. What we are sorry for is the loss of lives on both sides at a time when Iraq has expressed its wish for peace and showed its intentions for peace practically by withdrawing from all Iranian territory and by accepting the mediation of both the United Nations and the Islamic Conference Organization. This indicates that Iraq wants to solve its problems and wants to concentrate on its social and economic progress. This also indicates that Iraq does not want to be threatened by a neighboring country.

[Question] Then, why has Sudan joined the war?

[Answer] No, Sudan has not joined the war. Even Jordan's participation is symbolic. Iraq is not in need of men, because its army is one of the biggest armies in the Arab world. When we send a battalion or two, this cannot change the balance, but this shows the unity of the Arabs in defending an Arab country that is being subjected to aggression by a foreign country. I am not a military man, but through my readings and through what I have seen on the television screen during the past few years, I know that the Iraqis are defending their country in a good manner. We hate to send human beings only to be butchered.

[Question] Do you think King Husayn will visit the United States some time in the future?

[Answer] Definitely. Peace concerns us very much. I am confident that if his majesty visits Washington, he will exchange views during the bilateral negotiations. Again, I say that what is important is that the Palestinian people be a party in the talks.

[Question] King Husayn said the Palestinians are closer to Jordanians than to any other Arab people. Does this mean a deviation from Palestine and that the Palestinians can live in Jordan?

[Answer] No, what we say is: The relations of Jordanians with the Palestinians are stronger than their relations with any other Arab party. We lived as one entity from 1950 to 1967. We have suffered together from Israeli aggression. We feel that we are close to each other, because we see the danger more than any other party does. Therefore, cooperation between the Jordanians and Palestinians is important and vital for both sides. We do not expect that any country whose frontiers are far away from Israel can adequately sense this Israeli danger, but we feel it because we see it.

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. ON REAGAN INITIATIVE

JN210915 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Oct 82 pp 1, 15

[AR-RA'Y correspondent's dispatch]

[Text] Washington -- Jordanian Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali has said that President Reagan has achieved his first success by winning over the U.S. public and gaining the support of congressmen and the media on his initiative. More than that, the ambassador added, the Jewish community in the United States has declared its opposition to the stand adopted by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and his defense minister, Sharon. President Reagan has also succeeded in depriving the Begin government of the support of Israeli pressure groups in the United States, he said.

Commenting on the statements reiterated by U.S. officials that King Husayn holds the key to the solution of the Palestine question, Al-Majali said officials in Washington realize that while the Jordanians and the Arabs want peace, Jordan is in no position to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians.

Al-Majali said the Reagan initiative has caused waves of interactions and debates among the Palestinians, both in the PLO and in the West Bank and Gaza, and that these interactions are also evident among Palestinians in the United States itself. These interactions, he said, should proceed normally until they evolve a decision supported by the majority of Palestinians.

I told the ambassador that a senior U.S. official has informed me that Washington has held contacts with Palestinian national leaders in the West Bank and Gaza and that these leaders have expressed their willingness to study and discuss President Reagan's initiative. The ambassador said that U.S. officials have also informed him of the subject.

Al-Majali added that the Reagan initative represents new hope for the Palestinians and that it behooves the Palestinians to realize this fact and to take the time factor into consideration. President Reagan has only a short period of time before the reelection campaign begins.

The ambassador believes that the U.S. Administration is determined to exert every effort to carry out the peace proposals. He said that although the U.S. initative was met with Israeli rejection from the first day, the Begin government rejection does not represent a serious danger because the American people, including the Jewish community, support the initiative. This alone will enable the U.S. Administration to overcome the Israeli rejection, he added.

Regarding U.S. efforts to resolve the Lebanese problem and whether this is considered a prelude to resolving the Palestine question, Al-Majali said the solution of the Lebanese problem is not linked to the solution of the Palestine question, but it will be an important indicator of Israel's seriousness and readiness to proceed toward peace.

JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE MEETS 20 OCT

JN201034 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Oct 82 pp 1, 21

[Text] AD-DUSTUR has learned that the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee in support of the kinfolk in the occupied homeland will begin talks today on the situation of the municipalities in the occupied territories in light of the recent changes made by the occupation authorities in these national establishments.

AD-DUSTUR has also leared that the committee has entrusted a group of experts to prepare a detailed report of the situation in these municipalities following the dissolution of several municipal councils. The report is expected to explain the needs of the municipalities and the obstacles that impede their development as well as the problems and sufferings of the expelled mayors.

It has been learned that the figures who were offered appointments in the Hebron Municipal Committee have turned down the offer.

Talks Conclude

JN201522 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Amman, 20 Oct (PETRA) -- The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in support of the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied homeland held its session today. During its 4 days of meetings the committee discussed topics on the agenda and adopted the necessary decisions to continue the support of the steadfastness of the citizens in the occupied territory.

AL-JUMAYYIL INTERVIEWED BY LA REPUBBLICA

AU191955 Rcr ANSA in English 1930 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] (ANSA) -- Rome, October 19 -- Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil vowed to polish his nation's identity as an "essential" member of the Arab world in an interview appearing in Rome's LA REPUBBLICA daily today.

Al-Jumayyil, due to arrive here for a visit on Thursday, also laid full responsibility on Israel for the [words indistinct] Christian militiamen in Beirut's Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in September.

"From now on in," the Lebanese president vowed, "our relations with the Arab world will be more active, more sincere and direct... without hypocrisy or compromises".

"We've paid a high enough price for the Arab cause," he announced, "and we can face all Arabs without any inferiority complex".

Pinning "one hundred percent" [words indistinct] for the Beirut massacres on Israel, Al-Jumayyil cited international law as establishing the "direct responsibility" of occupation forces for whatever happens in the territories under their control.

He denied that either the [words indistinct] or the Lebanese state were in the area, "which was surrounded and had been finely combed by the Israeli army", at the time of the massacre.

The first thing Lebanon has to do to build itself a future, Al-Jumayyil went on, is to recover its sovereignty, a problem which he admitted is tied to "the interests of foreign powers involved in Lebanon".

The Lebanese president is currently in the United States, where he made an appearance at the U.N. General Assembly and was scheduled to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Al-Jumayyil told LA REPUBBLICA that Reagan was offering "real" support for Lebanese sovereignty sovereignty and "concrete aid" to help regain it. He said he was meeting the U.S. President for the very purpose of exploring ways of achieving that goal.

The same goes, he indicated, for his visits this week to Paris and Rome for talks with French and Italian authorities. The U.S. France and Italy are the three nations whose troops are stationed in Lebanon to keep the peace. The Lebanese president displayed his plans for re-building and developing his war-torn nation after eight years of [words indistinct] envisioned "a sort of international Marshall Plan [words indistinct] as well as the United States, may be expected to contribute.

Europe, he added, can pitch in by offering technological assistance.

At home, Al-Jumayyil pledged to [words indistinct] of "all the vicissitudes of the past that led us to where we are today". The Lebanese people, he added, have learned to distinguish... the nation's [word indistinct] interest from political manouvers and are ready for unity.

[Words indistinct] criticized the left for having mixed up, for too long, the interests of Lebanon and the interests of the Palestinian Resistance.

"I can understand supporting the Palestinian Resistance," he said, "but not placing the Palestinian cause higher than Lebanon's".

AL-JUMAYYIL ARRIVES IN PARIS FOR TALKS 20 OCT

For reportage on President Amin al-Jumayyil's meetings with French President Mitterrand, Premier Mauroy, External Relations Minister Cheysson and other officials, as well as an interview and news conference he held in Paris, see the France section of the 21 October Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

KARAMI COMMENTS ON AL-JUMAYYIL'S UN SPEECHES

NC191331 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Statement by former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami on 19 October -- place not specified -- recorded]

[Text] We feel that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's tour and his speeches at the UN [General Assembly] and the Security Council definitely embody the aspirations of the Lebanese people, aspirations that he clearly outlined in his speeches. We await the implementation and accomplishment of these aspirations, because we are still in the hopeful phase, namely, at the beginning of the road. We all know that the march is long and hard. Therefore, Lebanon needs national unity, fraternal cooperation and continuous work and struggle.

Demands are not attained by hopes. Nevertheless, it appears that good will and true determination augur that the march is serious and that efforts are being made to utilize resources and capabilities. Therefore, we are more hopeful of achieving our goals.

Here we emphasize the necessity that all Lebanese should realize these facts and should purify their hearts in order to be able to support the regime and the legitimate authority so we may reach the shore of safety. I still believe that the domestic difficulties and hardships facing the regime come from its perimeter, not from us. We are still waiting for the positive initiatives and practical action to eliminate all barriers and obstacles in the way of this march, led by Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

AL-WAZZAN TO TOUR ARAB COUNTRIES FOR AID, SUPPORT

NC202038 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today confirmed reports that he will tour a number of Arab states. He said the tour will be within the framework of official Lebanese moves to enlist support and aid for reconstructing Lebanon. However, he declined to say specifically when the tour will take place and which states he will visit. He pointed out that this subject will crystallize following President al-Jumayyil's return from his tour.

LE FIGARO ON FRANJIYAH OVERTURE TO AL-JUMMAYYIL

PM181603 Paris LE FIGARO in French 15 Oct 82 p 5

["S.C.-L." report: "Rapprochement Between the Franjiyah and Al-Jumayyil Families"]

[Text] Sulayman Franjiyah, who was president of the republic from 1970 to 1976, is the strong man of northern Lebanon. The militia he maintains ensures relative tranquility for that region under the umbrella, it is true, of the Syrian Army that, for the time being, is omnipresent.

A bitter enemy of Bashir al-Jumayyil -- whom he blamed, apparently wrongly, for the massacre of his son Tony Franjiyah, his daughter-in-law, his granddaughter and 30 of his supporters in (Ehden) on 13 June 1978 -- he has just contacted President Amin al-Jumayyil despite the hatred between their two families.

Is that merely an attempt to reconcile the two great Maronite Christian factions or a timid attempt to give the Lebanese state a little more vital space? Former President Franjiyah explained: "The word rallying round, which has been used, is incorrect," he protested. "A president has been elected; his brother Bashir is dead; the dispute between our two families no longer has any reason to exist. I had a telephone conversation last Saturday with Amin and Pierre al-Jumayyil, and it was I who took the first steps to encourage the president to implement the promises he made in his message to the Lebanese people. The Lebanese," he added, "are united. They are united behind Lebanon, not behind a man. The head of state must now make that unity last."

But questioned on what practical step he had decided to take in that direction, former President Franjiyah was rather reserved. "This northern region has succeeded in preserving relative peace," he said, "and that is thanks to the 'will of its inhabitants' (read: "Thanks to my armed militia...!')"

"That gives us the normal right of a citizen morally responsible for this region, its neighbors and a considerable part of Lebanon. But we will hand over our arms 1 hour after the foreign forces in the north have handed over theirs."

Distrust of the Palestinians

In his view, it will take "some time" to restore confidence. The Palestinian question is the stumbling block for everything. "As long as the Palestinians are in the territory," he said, "it is difficult to inspire confidence in them. Consequently, the Palestinians keep their weapons, we keep our weapons, everybody keeps his weapons...!

"Lebanese confidence is returning," he said, "but as long as the Palestinians are on our territory I doubt that the same confidence will return between them and us."

According to him, the United States is, of course, responsible for this situation -- let us not forget that former President Franjiyah is pro-Syrian and that he is making desperate efforts to make that known. The Lebanese Army, the main factor in regaining control over the country strikes him as the effective solution.

"But," he said, "it is necessary to distinguish between the troops who are 'excellent and disciplined' and the command, which is too influenced by politics." In his view, the second bureau and the commander in chief's post should be placed in different hands.

"If I had had to order sections of Beirut to be cordoned off," he said with regret, "I would have demanded that the same work be carried out at the same time in East and West Beirut. There will now always be room for criticisms -- whether justified nor not, I do not know: Nor do I know whether there are political arrests of leftwing supporters: I am going by the version which states that foreigners without the proper papers were arrested and expelled. But is it right to consider that the leftwing parties' demands are anti-Lebanese? I wonder?"

The presence of foreign armies leaves him skeptical: "I only hope they have not come as tourists like the UNIFIL," he said. "In any case, the lessons of 1975 and 1976 were harsh enough to make the Lebanese understand how important it is for them to respect their brothers and live in peace."

Will he take the first step, other than by telephone? That is the question everybody in Lebanon is asking.

BRIEFS

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ELECTIONS -- The Chamber of Deputies today reelected Kamil al-As'ad as its speaker for his 16th term, and elected Munir Abu Fadil as deputy speaker. The Chamber also elected Deputies Tariq Habshi and Salih al-Khayr as secretaries and Deputies Ra'if Samarah, Subhi Yaghi and Ara Yeruanyan as rapporteurs. [Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Oct 82 NC]

AL-ASAD CONFERS WITH HABASH, PFLP DELEGATION

JN201255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a PFLP delegation led by Secretary General Dr George Habash at 1230 today. The delegation comprised Abu 'Ali Mustafa and Abu Mahir al-Yamani. The talks during the meeting revolved around the situation in the region and the tasks dictated by the responsibility of firmly confronting the imperialist-Zionist plots, which are hostile to the Arab nation and its pan-Arab central issue of Palestine.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON SOVIET RELATIONS, WEAPONS

PM201131 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 13 Oct 82 pp 2, 11

[Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad interview with British and American journalists in Damascus on 10 October]

[Excerpts] Information Minister Comrade Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad had an interview with representatives of British and American newspapers last Sunday evening. The journalists were Edward Mortimer of THE TIMES, Roger Mathews of the FINANCIAL TIMES, James Clarity of THE NEW YORK TIMES and James McManus of THE GUARDIAN.

Some news agencies carried excerpts from it that distorted the original meaning of certain parts. The following is the text of the interview:

Question: Will you continue to support Iran against Iraq?

Answer: I understand the issue as follows: Saddam Husayn has waged an unjust war against Iran that is not in the interest of either people. From the first week of the war we said that its outcome would be against the interests of the Arab nation and Iran. This is what has happened. The war is continuing and what is happening now is a reaction to the war that started 2 years ago. We have condemned Saddam's occupation of Iranian land, and we condemn anyone who occupies others' land by force. One of the most important clauses of Resolution 242 refers to the impermissibility of occupying others' land by force. Whoever occupies others' land by force must relinquish it either through fighting or peaceful negotiations. We have resisted Israel's occupation of land by force, and we resist any Arab occupying others' land by force.

Question: Do you oppose Iran's occupation of Iraqi land?

Answer: The Iranian Government -- and I have recently returned from Iran -- affirms in all its statements that it has no designs on any inch of land but that it is asking Saddam for compensation for the losses it incurred as a result of his attacks on it. It also wants to topple Saddam, because he was the one who started the war. We cooperate with Iraqi opposition factions.

Question: Do you believe that relations with the Soviet Union are strong?

Answer: Our relations with the Soviet Union are excellent. We consider it a strategic friend, because it enables us to defend our borders and capital against any Israeli attack. It stands on our side in all international spheres. It is a superpower, and it supports a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. With its help and with our own strength we confront the U.S. military arsenal that has been placed at the disposal of the Zionist and racist leaders. We have fought using Soviet weapons, and we have confidence in them, just as we have confidence in ourselves. If any qualitative differences in certain types of weapons emerge, they can be rectified.

Question: Has the Soviet Union compensated you for the weapons you have lost during the war?

Answer: As a loyal friend of ours, the Soviet Union does not default on its duties toward us.

Question: The Russians have accused you of not knowing how to use the weapons.

Answer: Our Soviet friends are proud of the Syrian soldiers' use of these weapons and have recently written about this subject. I must say that the weapons used to strike at our missiles were the latest U.S. weapons. [Israeli Chief of Staff] Eytan explained this when he said that the war against the Syrians was a war to test weapons. Israel has certainly benefited from that test to a certain extent, but we also have benefited. Although we may not yet have anything to match these latest weapons, we will have it in the near future.

I would like to say that, whether or not we have weapons to match those of Israel, we have a strong will to fight in defense of our rights, principles and peoples.

Question: Israel has been unable to capture any T-72 tanks.

Answer: We have already confirmed that. Our forces fought heroically, and we achieved great successes in ground fighting. The weak point was the air force, because Israel had the latest U.S. weapons and we had nothing to match them.

DAMASCUS RADIO PRAISES AL-JUMAYYIL'S POSITION

JN201508 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Oct 82

[From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Less than a day had passed after President Amin al-Jumayyil delivered his speeches at the General Assembly and the Security Council when Israel began a large-scale campaign of criticism against the Leganese president, who emphasized Lebanon's Arab links, particularly with Syria. He also rejected Israel's conditions for the withdrawal of its forces and accused Israel of violating the 1949 armistice several times.

President al-Jumayyil defined his policy within certain points that oppose the occupation and its conditions and preserve Lebanon's Arab affiliation and the special Lebanese-Syrian relationship. Thus, Al-Jumayyil foiled Israel's attempts to exploit its occupation to achieve political and military gains, such as signing a peace agreement and imposing security arrangements in south Lebanon that would eventually lead to its annexation in accordance with Sharon's repeated threats.

Begin's government changed its demand for a peace agreement bargain to a written guarantee from the Lebanese authority not to allow a return to the situation that prevailed in Lebanon before the invasion. That would also include forming a Lebanese-Israeli military committee to agree on security arrangements for the south, because Israel wants to ensure that its forces are the last to leave Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil's rejection of this Israeli plan, which would have bound Lebanon with the chains of Israeli occupation, and his accusation that Israel violated the 1949 armistice agreement several times, clearly proves that the essence of the Lebanese crisis are the repeated Israeli aggressions and the overt Zionist designs of expansion, particularly on the Litani River and south Lebanon. It goes without saying that this national course, which is based on Arab affiliation, will force Israel to intensify its pressure on the Lebanese authority and to carry out sabotage inside Lebanon until it has achieved the necessary justification for obtaining political gains which have gone beyond its reach.

SHEM-TOV, PERES, ROM ON AL-JUMAYYIL REMARKS

TA201545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Opposition member Victor Shem-Tov of MAPAM says that recent anti-Israel statements by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil were made in response to internal pressure on him from within Lebanon. Shem-Tov says that Al-Jumayyil's holding Israel responsible for the Beirut massacres and refusal to sign a peace treaty with Jerusalem emphasizes Israel's failure to achieve its political goals in the Peace for Galilee Operation. And in the Knesset today the Alignment opposition leader, Shim'on Peres, told reporter Jack Katzenell how he views President al-Jumayyil's position:

[Begin recording] [Peres] I think it is shocking from the Israeli point of view; it is erroneous from the Lebanese point of view. Shocking because I believe Israel played a role in liberating Lebanon from the non-Lebanese forces. Surely this would be true about Beirut, which is the capital of Lebanon. Erroneous because Israel never broke the backbone of Lebanon, but the PLO did it, and I think very much because of the Israeli insistence that Lebanon could have regained, at least partially, her freedom and can remain free in the future. By turning his back on Israel, I believe the president of Lebanon is committing a grave mistake, not just from our point of view but from his point of view as well.

[Question] Do you think that Israel should dig in its heels, as it were, and refuse to leave Lebanon until he changes his mind, at least in some way?

[Answer] Well, I distinguish between the 45 km and the rest. Forty-five km is really a matter of security for Israel, a matter of self-defense. I, for one, did not change my mind. I think that a multinational force may be the best solution, a multinational force that may control this zone.

The rest, or the other issues, are a matter of negotiations which are being now conducted by the United States of America via Philip Habib and I do not see there any room for military intervention. But again returning to the security zone, I believe that we have to negotiate with the United States, Lebanon and other concerned parties to have this zone free from dangers to Israel and free from dangers to Lebanon itself. [end recording]

Reporter Katzenell also heard this reaction from a leading Likud Knesset member, Yosef Rom, who serves on the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee:

[Begin Rom recording] I think that the expressions of President Amin al-Jumayyil in the United States have to be examined in the context of where they were said and under what expectation President al-Jumayyil said those expressions.

I think that President al-Jumayyil has been very ungrateful to Israel and to Israel's contribution to the security and the well-being of the Lebanese people. I think also he has been ungrateful and even forgetful how and what were the means by which he was elected to be president of Lebanon, he and before him his brother Bashir, who was murdered by a group inside Lebanon and, therefore, his expressions are very, I would say, unfruitful and, I think, do not contribute to the peaceful resolution of the Lebanese crisis.

In terms of his expressions concerning the security arrangements between Israel and Lebanon, we should first of all remind President al-Jumayyil that Lebanon was the one that revoked the 1949 amistice agreement in 1967 when it declared war against Israel in the 6-day war in 1967; and since then the 1949 armistice agreements are null and void by the Lebanese decisions. [end recording]

REACTION TO AL-JUMAYYIL STATEMENTS ASSESSED

Schiffer Comments

TA201454 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by 'Amiqan Rottman in the studio -- live]

[Text] [Question] As is known, in his talks in Washington, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil rejected Israel's proposal for an arrangement in Lebanon and vehemently ruled out the possibility of signing a peace treaty with Israel. To say the least this sounds discouraging. Is Jerusalem indeed worried about these statements?

[Answer] No, Jerusalem is not worried. A high-ranking political source told me this morning that we will have to get used to this phenomenon, of Lebanese statesmen contradicting themselves day in and day out.

[Question] So, is Al-Jumayyil unreliable?

[Answer] Well, perhaps, I should explain the meaning of these contradictory statements. The source told me that the tone would change according to the various pressures that will be exerted on the Lebanese leaders.

A few days ago when Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche presented Israel's proposals, the administration in Beirut accepted them. We would not be mistaken in guessing that the Lebanese officials were hinting at the public statements President al-Jumayyil would make in Washington.

Therefore, Lebanese President al-Jumayyil's statements in Washington were not unexpected. Also, no disppointment could be discerned among knowledgeable circles who have been holding contacts with Lebanese officials. Al-Jumayyil traveled to the United States with one goal in mind: to attain as much financial and other aid as possible to restore Lebanon. However, his anti-Israeli declarations are aimed at obtaining aid from another source: the Arab countries. That is why Jerusalem was not surprised and regarded his statements as part of the game in the Middle East.

[Question] Why is he making these statements in Washington if they are meant for Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] Because the negotiations on the arrangements in Lebanon acutally began in Washington and he found the United States to be the best suited stage on which to make these remarks, remarks that will also reach the Arab countries.

[Question] Were these statements nothing more than a tactical, internal Arab matter?

[Answer] The assessment in Jerusalem is that they did not deviate from the unwritten arrangement according to which one starts from the lowest opening position. What did Amin al-Jumayyil say, after all? He rejected the Israeli proposals and he wants to go back to the armistice agreements, as if there had been no war, as if the Al-Jumayyil family had not returned to power, as if nothing had happened. He begins from the lowest opening position.

However, when I asked circles who are truly familiar with the negotiations with Lebanese dignitaries whether a compromise would emerge from these declarations, or whether they would lead to arrangements, they indeed remain optimistic that arrangements, or, as they called them, arrangements in Middle Eastern style, will indeed emerge.

In other words, many arrangements and understandings will be reached under the table and there will be a great deal of normalization. However, Lebanon will not publicly sign a peace treaty with Israel.

If there is disappointment among the Israeli public, it may stem from a variety of high expectations instilled here when government officials and the prime minister himself declared that a peace treaty would be attained with Lebanon and that various things would occur after Operation Peace for Galilee. Hence, expectations were high. Indeed, after President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil was murdered, the prime minister stated in a Cabinet session that the issue of the peace treaty would be postponed. In other words, those who were optimistic now also know that this will not be the case. At the end of the year, the Israeli Government will not be able to brag about a peace treaty with Lebanon or any other Arab country.

Nevertheless, people familiar with the negotiations with the Lebanese are still certain that it will be possible to reach a security arrangement despite these declarations.

[Question] How and when will we know that what Al-Jumayyil says and thinks are not identical?

[Answer] For the time being, each side has had its say about its opening positions. Israel presented its plan, Amin al-Jumayyil made his case in the United States and now, once again, the U.S. mediator is returning to the scene. Toward the end of the week, U.S. diplomats Morris Draper and Philip Habib will begin their shuttles in an attempt to find some points of agreement on the issue of security arrangements and future arrangements in Lebanon.

It must be remembered that Israel holds two cards: Israel is the strategic security hinterland of the Christians in Lebanon. In spite of his declarations, Amin al-Jumayyil cannot forget that if he went to Washington as the president of Lebanon, that was only thanks to the aid he received from Israel and the IDF's presence in Lebanon, just as Sarkis made it to the Presidency with the generous help of the Syrians. If the Christians want to remain the dominant and ruling element in Lebanon, they must realize that they will have to maintain their close relations with Israel.

Second, and this is not only a diplomatic fact but an important fact in the field, is the IDF's presence in Lebanon. Israel has made it clear that it will not leave Lebanon as long as security arrangements are not implemented. There is agreement on this issue whith the United States.

There may be differences, and there will be differences, about the specifics of those security arrangements because the United States will certainly not see eye-to-eye with Israel over all the arrangements Israel wants.

However, in principle there is agreement that there must be security arrangements and that they are the prerequisite for the IDF's pullout. Therefore, when the moment of truth comes, Jerusalem still believes that satisfactory arrangements will be attainable.

Essing Comments

TA201436 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] There is growing disappointment in Jerusalem over Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's rejection of Israel's proposals for security arrangements.

President al-Jumayyil told American leaders that Israeli forces should leave his country before the Syrians and that he was not prepared to sign an agreement with Israel over security arrangements. David Essing reports:

[Begin Essing recording] Israel had been given to understand by the Lebanese that the Israeli proposals were acceptable to them. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche had presented the Israeli plan in Beirut at about the same time that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir did so in Washington. Israel was aware of some reasons that may be behind President al-Jumayyil's apparent about-face. Lebanese leaders are known for their inconsistency: first saying one thing, then another before making up their minds.

In addition, Lebanon has a big short-term problem of acquiring a huge financial aid to rebuild the country after 7 years of war. The main sources are the richer Arab countries. There appears to be very little symmetry between what President al-Jumayyil says about Israeli forces leaving before the Syrians and the facts on the ground. Al-Jumayyil knows full well that his only chance to get the Syrians out is by playing the Israeli card. In other words, to use Israeli troops as leverage to persuade the Syrians to finally evacuate Lebanon. So at this hour it is still too early to say what President al-Jumayyil's position will be on security arrangements.

In Jerusalem today [an] Israeli official said: Now, of course, we are disappointed; we think he could not have said all the things he did and -- the official said emphatically -- we stick to our proposals; we are there and we stay there until we get an agreement on security arrangements. [end recording]

IDF ENTRY INTO W. BEIRUT, CAMPS PREVENTED

TA210719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] The Lebanese authorities are preventing IDF officers from entering West Beirut and especially the Sabra and Shatila camps. This is reported by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. A few officers asked to look around the camps and were refused.

Our correspondent has also learned that the commission of inquiry which was appointed to investigate the massacre in the camps asked in vain for permission to enter the camps on Monday. Therefore, it only toured the areas controlled by the IDF and observed the camps from a distance.

MASSACRE INQUIRY CONTINUES; SHARON TO TESTIFY

TA210606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] The commission of inquiry into the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps hears testimony today from the chief of military intelligence Gen Yehosu'a Sagi. Yesterday the former head of the Mosad intelligence service, reserve Gen Yitzhaq Hofi, appeared.

Defense Minister Sharon is expected to testify before the commission on Monday. It is possible that Sharon may appear in open session. Up till now the witnesses have been heard behind close doors.

REPORTAGE ON DRUZE-PHALANGIST CLASHES 19-21 OCT

Israeli Druze Demonstrate

TA191123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Some 400 Druze are demonstrating opposite the Knesset building today, demanding that the IDF defend their kin in Lebanon from the Phalangists. Some of the placards they are carrying say "Down with the Begin-Sharon government," "We trained the Phalangists with our arms, and they turned them against us."

Spokesman on IDF Deployment

TA191216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The IDF spokesman in Lebanon says the Lebanese Army can take up positions in the Druze villages, but the IDF will make sure there is an overlap of its own and Lebanese soldiers' presence in the area. The IDF also demands that an adequate-sized Lebanese unit be stationed to observe public order. The Israeli spokesman reported that the force dispatched by the Lebanese Army 2 days ago is too little to constitute a buffer between the Druze and the Phalangists. Only 20 soldiers arrived with three jeeps. There were no officers or heavy arms. We do not want to be blamed for another Sabra and Shatila-like affair, the spokesman explained.

An AP correspondent in Beirut says he believes the entrance of the Lebanese Army into the villages is being delayed because the IDF has not yet left.

Alignment Appeals to Cabinet

TA191549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Alignment has said that Israel should take advantage of its influence in Lebanon to guarantee the Druze's safety. The Knesset Alignment faction has called on the Cabinet to work at once, as far as possible, to prevent a worsening of the fighting in the Druze villages in Lebanon. The Alignment also calls upon the Druze in Israel to continue to fulfill their service in the IDF.

Phalange Remove Roadblocks

TA200828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Phalange soldiers have removed all roadblocks they put up in the Druze enclave on the Ash-Shuf mountains in Lebanon, which had exacerbated tension between the two sects. An IDF officer this morning notified the Druze leader in Israel, Shaykh Amin Tarif, and pointed out that the situation in the Druze villages on the Ash-Shuf mountains was calm and life was returning to normal.

Lebanese Army Takes Up Positions

TA201227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Lebanese Army units at noon began entering Druze villages on the Ash-Shuf mountains, mainly those villages where there were clashes between Druze and Phalangists. In several sites, the soldiers set up checkpoints.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this move follows an agreement reached between the IDF and the Lebanese Army, according to which IDF soldiers will remain in the villages until it becomes clear that the Lebanese Army is in control.

Our correspondent Roni Daniyel reports from Kafr Matta that Lebanese Army soldiers have set up positions close to those of the IDF.

Sources in Beirut noted that the Lebanese Government would not send large units to deploy in the region before Israel withdraws. It was reported this morning that the Phalange soldiers removed all the positions and roadblocks they had set up in the villages.

Begin: Druze To Be Safeguarded

TA201714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has promised the Druze in Israel that the IDF will not permit their Lebanese brethren to be harmed. In a message to Druze leader in Israel Shaykh Amin Tarif, Begin said that Junblatt's personnel who had a pact with the PLO sometimes cause incidents, but the IDF has been given orders to continue to stand on guard. Begin has also asked Shaykh Amin Tarif to stop the Israeli Druze from receiving the mistaken impression that their brethren in Lebanon are not being helped by the IDF.

IDF Helps Druze Set Up Watches

TA219470 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The IDF has recently helped Druze set up security watches in the town of Hasbayya and six villages in the area. The IDF weekly, BAMAHANE, reports that the watchmen are armed with automatic weapons they received from the IDF and unmarked IDF workclothes. Their main task is to help the inhabitants and maintain their feeling of security.

BAMAHANE correspondent Yinon Shenqar notes that if the fighting and disputes between the Druze and Phalangists increase in the area of 'Alayh, these Druze watchmen may join their brothers in northwestern Lebanon in their war against the Phalangists. The governor of Hasbayya, Lieutenant Colonel 'Ismail, said that the watchmen are not allowed to take weapons out of the village.

Lebanese Continue to Deploy

TA210833 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0745 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] The Lebanese Army will continue today to take up positions in the Druze villages Kfar Matta and 'Bayh and in other Druze villages in the 'Alayh area.

IDF figures made it clear today that the IDF will continue to hold its positions in those villages until it is clear that the Lebanese Army is in control of the situation and that it is possible to leave the area and be sure that there will be no clashes between Druze and Christians there.

The IDF figures went on to clarify to our correspondent Alon Disqin that the villages are being handed over to the Lebanese Army when complete quiet prevails in them.

U.S. 'PUTS PRESSURE' ON EGYPT TO RETURN ENVOY

TA200846 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Oct 82 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] The United States is working in Cairo to bring Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada back to Tel Aviv, political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday.

The sources added that the United States has been putting pressure on the Egyptian Government to send the ambassador back to Israel, but so far without success.

The Egyptians hinted, it was said, that the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon would be a suitable occasion for their ambassador's return. Israel, the sources added, is taking a grave view of the fact that bilateral relations are not conducted at an equal level of representation and if this situation continues any longer, it "will not let it go unnoticed."

NAVON CALLS ON TO STAY IDF OUT OF POLITICS

TA201751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon today called on the IDF not to get involved in the political arguments and said that it was a duty to preserve the IDF's integrity because this was a national asset. The president said this at the ceremony inaugurating the site commemorating the fallen of the Golani brigade at the Golani junction in Lower Galilee.

[Begin Navon recording] Let us all guard the integrity of the Israel Defense Forces, to keep it away from any manifestations of politics and let it not be involved in political arguments. It unites us and we will guard it, a national, general asset, above disputes. We will guard this as our souls lest it be eroded, lest it be harmed by arguments from inside or outside; for it is subordinate to the discipline of a government elected democratically and it obeys its orders. [end recording]

LIKUD PROBING REALIGNMENT IF BEGIN RETIRES

TA200924 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Senior Likud members recently have begun looking into forming new government and coalition alignments, should Prime Minister Menahem Begin decide to retire from political life toward next spring. They have been doing this in unofficial talks.

Likud sources say they believe Begin might decide to retire, in which case, he could make this annoucement at the Herut movement convention, which once again has been postponed until spring. It originally was scheduled to have taken place in about a month, but at the prime minister's request -- he also is head of the Herut movement -- the convention has been put off to a date closer to next Passover.

Herut movement circles say they believe the convention has been delayed to prevent its convening before the commission of inquiry investigating the Beirut massacre completes its work or before 'Aliza Begin's state of health is determined.

The prime ministers repeatedly has informed his Likud associates recently that he regards himself responsible for the entire political echelon in every respect. He said he will continue to regard himself in the same light. He also reaffirmed his support for holding early elections, even if he should decide, when the time comes, to withdraw from political life and not to head the Likud in those coming elections.

As a result of all the above, Likud personalities recently have begun sending out unofficial feelers in a bid to examine the various alternatives that could prevent the Likud from finding itself in an embarrassing situation on the eve of early elections if, indeed, the prime minister decides to retire before the end of his term in office.

LEVI DIFFERENCES WITH ARIDOR, CORFU REPORTED

TA171745 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Housing Minister David Levi's remarks opposing the approach of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor and Transportation Minister Hayim Corfu on the matter of El Al, may lead to the adoption of a resolution at tomorrow's session of the Likud faction that every minister must confine his activities to the affairs of his ministry.

The reemerging confrontation between Levi and Corfu comes in addition to the several confrontations Levi has had recently with a number of Herut figures, such as Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and the mayors of the development towns, and his moving away from his traditional ally, Aridor. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar reports:

[Begin recording] The postponement of the date for the Herut movement's session, which is supposed to decide on the question of power positions in the party, and the suppositions concerning 'Ezer Weizman's return to politics, have exposed the tense and stormy relations in Herut. If in the past there seemed to be an unwritten pact between Ministers Levi and Aridor against Sharon, ever-widening cracks have recently begun to manifest themselves in Herut between the two.

The first sign of this was Aridor's announcement that he would vie for the position of chairman of the Herut movement's permanent committee -- a post Levi has occupied for several years. Aridor's associates have reported that he has not forgotten the during the last Histadrut elections, when he was chairman of the Histadrut's white part faction and was the near certain Herut candidate for the post of Histadrut secretary, Levi announced his desire to head the white part list, explaining that he had better chances of getting elected than his colleague Aridor. Aridor's associates said that this severely hurt him, and that the wound has not yet healed.

Herut members also say that, while prior to and during Operation Peace for Galilee, ministers joined together to stop Ari'el Sharon, now everyone is combining to stop David Levi. Ministers Yitzhaq Shamir, Aridor and Sharon, it is noted in Herut, belong to the more hawkish camp, while Levi belongs to the party's doves. As will be recalled, Aridor did not support the Camp David accords. In this matter, other Herut figures add, though it is true that Levi and Corfu have similar ideological views, this does not prevent confrontations between the two over El Al. As will be recalled, Levi intervened a few months ago in the negotiations with El Al workers, causing great discontent in his party. Corfu's associates revealed today that in last week's Knesset Likud faction session, at which the matter of El Al was discussed, David Levi did not take part in the discussion. If Levi has new ideas, he could have raised them at the faction's session, the same sources add.

Also being stressed in Herut are the recent differences of opinion between Levi and Deputy Minister Moshe Katzav, MK David Magen and MK Me'ir Shitrit -- all three heads of local councils, and like David Levi, represent the Oriental Jewish community. There are still no assessments in the Herut movement about Levi's positions as a representative of Sephardic Jewry among the broader public.

Tomorrow, as mentioned, the Knesset Likud faction will convene. It is believed that the faction will adopt an unequivocal resolution that each of the party's ministers deal only with the affairs of his ministry. [end recording]

THREE LIKUD MK'S REPORTEDLY READY TO BREAK AWAY

TA181723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] MK's Amnon Linn and Yitzhaq Peretz, who bolted from the Likud to the Alignment earlier this year, have said that three Likud MK's suggested to them setting up a faction that would try to topple the government. They said the three MK's intend to leave the Likud. Linn and Peretz told our correspondent that MK's Yitzhaq Berman and Dror Zeigerman are not involved. They said they told the Likud members that they had already returned to their home in the Alignment and would not support any new faction.

DEPUTY TRANSPORTATION MINISTER SHIPMAN DIES

TA190528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Deputy Transportation Minister David Shifman died last night following a brief illness. He was 58 years old. The coffin will be placed in the square in front of the Tel Aviv Town Hall at 1200 and the funeral procession will start at 1430.

Replaced by Weinstein

TA190728 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Replacing David Shifman as [deputy] transportation minister will be the 50th candidate on the Likud list, Ari'el Weinstein of the Liberal Party.

FRENCH SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON RELATIONS, UN MOVE

TA181538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] The spokesman of the French Government's ruling party, Bertrand Delannoy, has expressed opposition to the freeze in cultural ties between Israel and France. Speaking to our correspondent, he stressed that friendly relations and cultural ties are especially important when there are disputes between governments. The Socialist Party spokesman said that if a proposal is submitted to the United Nations to expel Israel, the French Government must fight it vigorously.

External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson told the heads of Jewish organizations in France that the nonconvening of the joint cultural and economic committees does not constitute an obstacle to continuing relations between the two countries. Cheysson hinted that after Israel withdraws from Lebanon, the committees will convene.

Culture Committee May Resume

TA191020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Sources in Paris have said it is possible that the joint French-Israeli culture committee might convene even before year's end if Israel proves in real terms that it intends to withdraw the IDF from Lebanon. This was reported by our Paris correspondent, Gil'ad Sher.

External Relations Minister Cheysson yesterday told a delegation of Jewish organizations in France that Israel's presence in Lebanon is the only impediment to convening the committee to extend the culture agreement. Nonetheless, Cheysson emphasized that cultural ties between the countries should continue as usual.

EMBASSY ASKS FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO CLOSE PLO OFFICE

TA200829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The Israeli Embassy in Paris again has demanded [darsha] that the French Foreign Ministry close the PLO office in the city. An official request to close the PLO office was submitted about 6 months ago.

HISTADRUT, EL AL MANAGEMENT AGREE ON PRINCIPLES

TA181336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Histadrut and the management of El Al have agreed that the document of principles will be the basis for negotiations on operating the company. Our correspondent Asher Schwartz has learned that this was agreed to at a meeting of Histadrut leaders, Treasury representatives and the management of El Al at the home of Nahman Perl, chairman of the Board of Directors. The meeting ended a short while ago, and Perl said that this evening the board will discuss the agreement that had been reached.

The document of agreement states that the legal advisers of Histadrut and El Al will formulate proposals for drafting a complete work agreement in El Al. The Histadrut affixed to the document a rider stating that it be taken into consideration in the negotiations.

Histadrut Secretary Yeruham Meshel told our correspondent that the interim agreement constitutes a new page in the relations between the management and workers of El Al. El Al, he said, would remain the national airline.

Our correspondent Asher Schwartz said that the contacts between Histadrut officials and the management of El Al at Nahman Perl's home followed Meshel's talks last night with the prime minister. The director of El Al, Yitzhaq Shender, told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum that he was optimistic, and that it is possible that the company is on the right track. He noted that there is still no commitment by El Al's work committees that the agreement achieved is acceptable to them. However, contacts are being held with the workers, and he thinks an agreement will be reached.

TRANSPORT MINISTER ADAMANT ON EL AL CLOSURE

TA191744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The minister of transport has said that he will not retract his intention of disbanding and selling El Al even if the employees change their position before the Cabinet session on Sunday, 24 October. In his opinion, the Cabinet at that session will adopt the recommendation of the directorate to liquidate the company.

Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the minister of transport and the prime minister this evening agreed that the topic will be discussed at the next Cabinet session. However, contacts with interested buyers will begin already this week.

Labor Criticizes Decision

TA191956 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1950 GMT 19 Oct 82

["Labor Party Reactions Team Calls Upon Government To Prevent Liquidation of El Al" -- ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 19 Oct -- The decision by the El Al directorate to liquidate the national airline company is irresponsible, ill considered and against the interests of the state. The State of Israel, in its political-security situation and with its serious economic problems, cannot permit itself to liquidate El Al. Such dangerous games of prestige with vital matters are harming the country's economy and its air links with the world.

The reactions team demands [doreshet] that the government show more responsibility and seriousness, reject the decision by the directorate to liquidate or sell the national airline company and pave the way, together with the Histadrut Ha'ovdim, for the rehabilitation of the El Al company and for its firm existence in the service of the State of Israel.

W. BANK SETTLER STABBED IN HEBRON; CURFEW IMPOSED

TA201912 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] A resident of Qiryat Arba' has been stabbed in the back in the Hebron market and had his gun stolen. The IDF has imposed a curfew on the market and is searching it. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that the wounded man managed by his own efforts to reach Makhpelah Cave, from where he was taken to the Hebron administration for treatment.

Curfew Lifted

TA210816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] The curfew imposed last night on the old city of Hebron has been lifted. The curfew was imposed after unknown people stabbed and hit Tzvi Segal of Qiryat Arba'. From the Hadassah Hospital it was reported that Segal's condition is good.

HEBRON MUNICIPALITY RESHUFFLE CONSIDERED

TA180739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] The Defence Ministry and the civil administration in Judaea and Samaria are considering a proposal to dissolve the Hebron Town Council and replace Mayor Mustafa an-Nabi an-Natshah.

The promoters of the idea hope that Wahid al-Ja'bari, son of the former mayor of the town, Shaykh 'Ali al-Ja'abari, could be persuaded to return from Jordan and form a new council which would be more cooperative with the authorities. This would also mean the restoration of office to the still-powerful Ja'bari clan.

The council would be drawn from the heads of local institutions, like the Chamber of Commerce.

West Bank sources said last night that rumors of the intended replacement of the Hebron municipality have been circulating for months, and said Wahid al-Ja'bari was unlikely to accept the job under these conditions.

The mayors of four other towns in the West Bank -- Nabulus, Ramallah, Al-Birah and 'Anabta -- have been dismissed over the past year, and the military government has had to install army officers or Israeli civilians to replace them.

The spokesman for the civil administration said last night that talk of replacing the Hebron Municipal Council was "far from reaching the operative level."

Meanwhile, villagers in Burin have reported that they have been served with notices declaring 2,800 dunams of cultivated land they claim is theirs is "state land."

The village lies southwest of Nabulus and it is not clear yet what purpose the land seizure is intended to serve. The nearest settlement is Bracha, which is intended to provide housing for the Samaritan community on nearby Mount Gerizim.

MOVEMENT SET UP TO PREVENT RETURN OF SETTLEMENTS

TA191350 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Oct 82 p 8

[Report by Arye Avneri]

[Text] The Citizens' Movement for the Prevention of the Return of the Judaea and Samaria Settlements to Jordan is the name of a new movement that was founded yesterday by lawyer Elyaqim Ha'etzni, one of the first settlers of Judaea and Samaria, and a resident of Qiryat Arba'.

Ha'etzni explained yesterday that he had decided to set up the new movement after Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said that if the Alignment formed a government it might be decided to transfer some of the Jewish settlements to Jordanian rule, though they would enjoy full autonomy. "Under no circumstances will we agree to be transferred to Jordanian rule," Ha'etzni said. He promised to put together a list of public figures who will constitute the new movement's executive.

VILLAGE LEAGUES URGE END TO OCCUPATION

TA201336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The area village leagues in Judaea and Samaria think that the Israeli Government must announce its willingness to negotiate with Jordan over ending the occupation of the territories and that it will not be able to convert the Palestinians into Israeli Arabs. However, they think that unless an important role is given to the inhabitants of the territories, no solution can be found to the Palestinian problem.

As for King Husayn's talks with Yasir 'Arafat, the village leagues believe that the path taken by President as-Sadat is the right path for achieving peace, but they will not be an obstacle to plans and meetings aimed at advancing toward a just solution. The position of the village leagues was published in their organ, AL-MIR'A, and was reported to us by our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari. The head of the villages, Mustafa Dudin, spent several days in the hospital this week, and only returned to work today.

TULKARM MAYOR INVITED TO PAN-ARAB CONFERENCE

TA170917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Tulkarm Mayor Hilmi Hanun has recently made up with the Jordanian Government and, hence, has been invited to attend a conference of Arab mayors to be held in Algeria next month.

Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that this is the first invitation to a pan-Arab conference Hanun has received in many years. His relations with Jordan had deteriorated because he was the first mayor in the territories to connect his town to the Israeli electric network. Jordan had also barred him from receiving financial aid from the Jordanian-PLO joint committee.

Other dignitaries from the territories, including mayors who were deposed from their duties at Israel's orders, have also been invited to the conference.

LABOR OFFICIAL WARNS OF ARAB LAND BUYING

TA200639 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] Qiryat Shemona -- Labour MK Ra'anan Na'im yesterday warned of a possible "keren kayemet le'ishmael" -- an Arab national fund similar to the Jewish National Fund in Galilee.

Na'im claims that in recent years there have been "massive" Arab purchases of land and homes in Migdal Ha'emeq, 'Afula, upper Nazareth and Karmi'el. He said that Arabs have made long-term investments in housing and industrial plants.

In a letter to Agriculture Minister Simha Ehrlich, Na'im asked if the Israel Lands Administration knows how much land, and how many apartments and factories, have been bought by Arabs in recent years, and if the money comes from abroad.

PLO, JORDAN TO INCREASE AID TO WEST BANK

TA191247 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] The PLO and Jordan will soon increase aid to the inhabitants of the territories, mainly in the fields of agriculture, construction and education.

It has been learned that a plan to this effect was prepared recently in PLO-Jordanian joint committee discussions, which were to have been completed last night.

The PLO and Jordan intend to use aid funds mainly from the Gulf states for this purpose.

JEWISH CONGRESS LEADER INVITED TO MOSCOW

TA171023 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Oct 82 p 1

[Exclusive report from Washington by Gid'on Samet -- 16 October]

[Text] In an unusual step, the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party has invited the president of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman, to visit the USSR in December. It will be preceded by a preparation visit by Mr Yisra'el Zinger, the manager of the congress and Bronfman's private aide.

The exit of Jews from the USSR, which was limited drastically this year, the fate of prisoners and the attitude toward the Jewish community will be discussed during the visit.

Moreover, the visit is to be held against the background of rumors spreading lately about Israeli probings here and in Europe, through Soviet representatives, of a possibility of thawing bilateral relations.

A senior government source, speaking today about Secretary of State George Shultz' report to his Israeli colleague on the recent Gromyko-Shultz meeting, said: We hear such reports, but we have no confirmation of them. He added that in the administration's opinion, there is no "basic hostility" on the part of the Soviet Union toward Israel. From a historical point of view, he said, Moscow supports a Palestinian state.

HA'ARETZ notes that the official tone was milder than usual toward the Soviet Union in the Middle East connection, and it did not contain an advance rejection of a possible Soviet role in the continuation of the peace process.

EXPORTS TO E. EUROPE, S. AMERICA WITHHELD

TA190915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat disclosed yesterday that his ministry had withheld exports to some South American and East European countries because of the fear that they would be unable to pay for the goods.

The exporters were instructed to make only cash deals with those countries. According to Pat, this is the main reason for the slight drop in industrial exports. He was addressing the Knesset's Economics Committee, and this report was filed by our correspondent Gid'on Zelinger.

SEPTEMBER CONSUMER PRICE INDEX UP 7.6 PERCENT

TA151330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] The Consumer Price Index rose by 7.6 percent in September. Since the beginning of the year, the index has risen by 90 percent. and this brings the annual inflation rate to 135 percent. The Consumer Price Index is mainly affected by the sharp rise in the costs of education, fruits and vegetables, which have risen by over 15 percent.

Our correspondent Gid'on Zelinger reports that, relatively speaking, last month the government did not get largely involved in the issue of prices, in the wake of the decision to implement the new economic plan to fight inflation. The index of input costs of residential construction rose by less than 2 percent in September, the lowest rate in 2 years.

In reaction to the rise in the Consumer Price Index, the finance minister's office notes that through cooperation between the Histadrut and the industrialsts, it will be possible to fight the rate of price hikes more effectively, particularly if both elements agree to cooperate on the issue of flexible cost of living increments.

BRIEFS

ARAB EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS -- According to statistics provided by the Research and Information Department of the employment service, 55,417 workers from Judaea, Samaria and Gaza worked in Israel in September as compared with 55,245 in August, which was a peak month for the employment of Arabs from the territories in Israel through the employment bureaus. [Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 13 Oct 82 TA]

ALGERIA

CSSR'S STROUGAL ENDS VISIT; STATEMENT ISSUED

LD202222 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Following the 3-day official visit by Lubomir Strougal, Czechoslovak premier, and his accompanying delegation, a press statement was issued today that said: At the invitation of Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, prime minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, Lubomir Strougal, premier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, paid an official and friendly visit to the Democratic and Popular Algerian Republic from 18 to 20 October. Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and general secretary of the party, received the Czechoslovak premier.

The two delegations headed by the Algerian and Czechoslovak premiers held talks in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. During the talks, the two sides studied relations of cooperation between the two countries and exchanged viewpoints on international issues.

In bilateral relations, the two delegations studied the recent development of these relations and expressed satisfaction with the high level these relations have reached. They agreed to give prominence to the possibilities of new horizons to ensure constant and balanced development of these relations in all fields. In this connection, the two sides affirmed the important role of the mixed Algerian-Czechoslovak commission in promoting and energizing economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries. They agreed that measures for widening and consolidating cooperation included in the minutes of the sixth session of this committee will give new impetus to bilateral cooperation.

The two sides studied the international situation and expressed their deep concern over the increase in the gravity of international tension, the constant resort to the policy of force and the revival of the arms race. The two sides agreed there is need to intensify their actions for the sake of establishing genuine international peace and security, a new international economic system, for achieving comprehensive disarmament and establishing democratic (?balances in) international relations and for supporting the national liberation movements in their just struggle for national sovereignty and independence.

Lubomir Strougal, premier of the Czechoslovak Government, invited Brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, prime minister of the Democratic and Popular Algerian Republic, to visit the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The invitation gladly was accepted and its date will be fixed later.

TALKS ON GAS AGREEMENT WITH ITALY BEGIN

LD210456 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Talks between SONATRACH [National Company for Hydrocarbon Transport and Trade] and the Italian organization ENI [National Hydrocarbons Agency] began yesterday to define the technical arrangements of the gas agreement signed between Algeria and Italy on 27 September.

Sources close to the talks report they are in accordance with the instructions included in the agreement signed between the two countries. They will be reflected at company level by contractual provisions, especially regarding prices, method of linking gas prices to oil prices and the provisions covering the revision of the terms of implementation of the contract.

The Algerian-Italian agreement, which follows other agreements SONATRACH had signed with French, American and Belgian parties, particularly calls for linking the price of gas to the price of crude oil and petroleum materials. It also defines the price of natural gas delivered at the Algerian-Tunisian border.

Informed sources say they believe Italy soon will be receiving gas by the trans-Mediterranean pipeline, which is a world first. The quantity Italy will receive is estimated at 12 billion cubic meters annually for 20 years.

LIBYA

POLISARIO'S ABDELAZIZ ARRIVES 19 OCTOBER

LD202026 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 3, October 20, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario secretary general, arrived in Tripoli last night accompanied by a delegation that included Mr Mohammad Salem Ould Salek, the Sahrawi minister of information, and several Polisario Politburo members.

SUDANESE FRONT ISSUES ANNIVERSARY STATEMENT

LD202032 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Oct (JANA) -- The Sudanese socialist popular front today issued a statement in Tripoli on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the 21 October Sudanese revolution, affirming its absolute faith in the Sudanese popular toiling masses as the force able and equipped to complete the tasks of the Sudanese socialist popular revolution for seizing authority, wealth and arms.

The statement greets the anniversary of the 21 October 1964 revolution led by unarmed Sudanese popular masses in toppling the reactionary dictatorial military regime that had placed the destiny and potential of the Sudanese people under the disposal of the bourgeois alliance in league with world imperialism and Arab and African reaction.

The statement reviews the activities of the Sudanese masses movement against the partisan plots and the semifeudalist domination by the bourgeois class over the life of Sudan, a class that aimed only at safeguarding Sudan's subservience to world imperialism, represented by Britain.

The statement denounces the bloodstained fascist regime of the lackey Numayri and affirms he aims at preserving subservience to imperialism and imposing misery and backwardness on the toiling Sudanese masses.

The statement affirms that the second revolution of the Sudanese masses has actually begun and its tremor has started to shake the foundations of the fascist military regime of the lackey Numayri, the agent now ruling Sudan, and that the secret and public revolutionary committees in Sudan are determined to detonate the new Sudanese popular revolution so that the Sudanese people may be able to seize authority, wealth and arms.

The statement concludes that the popular revolution in Sudan is inevitable and that it will be the revolution for the establishment of the people's authority, which is the ultimate fruit of the people's struggle.

BRIEFS

MOZAMBIQUE MINISTER ARRIVES -- Tripoli, Muharram 2, October 19, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- The Mozambique minister of justice, Mr Teodato Hunguana, yesterday arrived in Tripoli accompanied by a delegation on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 0911 GMT 19 Oct 82 LD]

PRC OFFICIAL VISITS -- Tripoli, Muharram 2, October 19, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- The general director of the engineering and agricultural establishment for fisheries and animal resources in the People's Republic of China arrived in Tripoli last night. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 0822 GMT 19 Oct 82 LD]

GAMBIA

CURFEW LIFTED: STATE OF EMERGENCY REMAINS

AB181012 Paris AFP in French 0937 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Banjul, 18 Oct (AFP) -- The 2300 to 0600 curfew which was imposed in Gambia following the abortive coup plot of 30 July 1981 in Banjul was completely lifted on Sunday [17 October]. This was announced in a statement issued by the Presidency of the Gambian Republic.

The statement points out, however, that the state of emergency which was decreed at the same time as the curfew is still in force throughout Gambian territory.

GHANA

IVORY COAST, TOGO PROTEST BORDER CLOSURE

AB202056 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The closure of Ghana's borders -- ordered almost a month ago -- is provoking some tension between this country and its neighbors, according to observers in Accra. The decision reached by the Provisional National Defense Council, PNDC, presided over by Flight Lt Jerry Rawlings, is indeed courting the discontentment of leaders of neighboring countries, especially the Ivory Coast and Togo. These leaders are complaining about the fact that Ghana, a member of ECOWAS, does not respect the rules and regulations of this community with particular reference to the regulation concerning freedom of movement.

The Ivory Coast and Togo have therefore addressed protest messages to Flight Lt Rawlings asking him to reopen the borders, and in the event the borders are not reopened as soon as possible these countries will take similar measures.

Ghana's borders were officially closed on 22 September in order to combat smuggling. The borders are therefore strictly watched. The latest development is that recently border guards have been reinforced with newly-trained soldiers. They have been stationed at various possible entry points, thus stiffling all passage.

But the PNDC did not remain indifferent to the protests lodged by its neighbors. It is in this light that it announced it is ready to reopen these borders as soon as the antismuggling struggle yields positive results. No date was given for that. Echoes from the weekly SPECTATOR, however, say the closure of the borders might remain in force until the end of the current cocoa harvesting season which started the beginning of this month.

MALI

AGRICULTURE MINISTER FORESEES SERIOUS DROUGHT

AB150905 Paris AFP in English 0836 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Bamako, 15 Oct (AFP) -- Malian Agriculture Minister N'fagnanama Kone has called for urgent international aid for the West African desert state, which he said was threatened with a repeat of the great drought year of 1973 in the Sahel region.

Mr Kone told ambassadors and representatives of international organizations yesterday that the current agriculture season had been marked by irregular rainfall, late and localized with long dry periods.

Only two of Mali's regions offered any hope of a reasonable crop, which would not be sufficient to meet the country's cereal needs, Mr Kone said. The Niger and Bani River floods had been low and had fallen unusually quickly, he added.

Mr Kone said that Mali's "dramatic" agricultural situation was having a serious effect on both livestock and pasture.

Meanwhile, the director general of the World Health Organization (WHO), Afdan Mahler, arrived here yesterday at the invitation of the Malian Government. He met President Moussa Traore and other members of the government and was due to visit the interior of the country. Mr Mahler said that aid for Mali was one of his organization's top priorities.

NIGERIA

ZIMBABWE'S MUGABE ARRIVES IN LAGOS 20 OCTOBER

AB201410 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, arrived in Lagos today to begin a 4-day state visit to Nigeria. He was received at the Murtala Mohamed Airport by President Shehu Shagari; the vice president, Alex Ekwueme; ministers; some top government officials and members of the diplomatic corps.

The Zimbabwean leader [words indistinct], who was welcomed by a 19-gun salute, later inspected a guard of honor before being introduced to a number of dignitaries. President Shehu Shagari and the Zimbabwean leader will hold their first round of bilateral talks in State House, Ribadu Road, this afternoon.

Talks With Shagari Begin

AB210726 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Talks began today in Lagos between Nigeria and Zimbabwe. The Nigerian delegation was led by President Shehu Shagari while the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, who arrived in the country earlier today on a 4-day state visit, is at the head of his country's team.

In his opening remarks, President Shagari stated that Nigerians were happy to be associated with the multiple efforts of the Zimbabwean Government to reconstruct the country after the devastation caused by the war of liberation. He said he was also encouraged by the efforts made by Mr Mugabe to redress the wrongs done to the black population of Zimbabwe by the racist regime of Ian Smith.

President Shagari stressed the need for Nigeria and Zimbabwe to ccoperate in various fields so as to enhance the progress of their people. He noted that in spite of the problems of distance and poor communications systems, both countries have been able to formulate and maintain some measure of meaningful cooperation. The president hoped that Mr Mugabe's visit would serve as an opportunity to set up a joint commission following the signing of some outstanding agreements. Some of these outstanding matters included the [words indistinct] bilateral agreement on trade and air services, so as to enable the airlines of both countries to operate scheduled flights to each other's ports of call with full landing and traffic rights. President Shagari emphasized that Nigeria would continue to work with the frontline state against South African aggression.

In his remarks, the Zimbabwean prime minister said that his visit was another opportunity for his country to express gratitude to Nigeria for its support and continued assistance. He stressed that Zimbabwe was prepared to establish closer links with Nigeria in a number of fields, for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

On the delay in establishing a diplomatic mission in Nigeria, Mr Mugabe said that this was not meant to be a device as has been reported in some quarters. He stated that the delay was as a result of the lack of qualified Zimbabweans to be apointed as ambassadors. Mr Mugabe was happy that a mission has since been established in Lagos.

The Zimbabwean leader continues his visit tomorrow and is expected to visit the administrative staff college of Nigeria, at Otuwkpo, near Badagry. Later in the day, he will hold another round of talks with President Shehu Shagari. On Friday, Mr Mugabe will pay a visit to Abuja and return to Lagos later in the afternoon to attend a state banquet to be given in his honor by President Shagari. The state visit ends on Saturday with the signing of a joint communique on the outcome of talks between the two countries.

AFP Report

AB210739 Paris AFP in English 0345 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, 21 Oct (AFP) -- The Zimbabwean people "will never forget" the moral and material help Nigeria gave them before and after their fight for independence from white rule, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said here Wednesday at the start of a four-day official visit.

He said he had come to Africa's most populous and oil-rich state, with four of his ministers, to discuss areas of future cooperation. He is expected to sign trade and airline agreements.

Nigerian President Shehu Shagari told Mr Mugabe that Nigerians were "encouraged" by the efforts made by his government to "redress the wrongs" done to black Zimbabweans. "This you are doing without recourse to witch-hunting and punitive measures," he said. "Your benevolent disposition toward your former oppressors, even when many are still unwilling to readjust to the new order, is a testament and example worthy of emulation by all the peoples of the world."

Mr Shagari, who reiterated his country's "total and unshakeable commitment to the total liberation of all African territories still under the yoke of colonial and racist domination and exploitation," was accompanied at the first round of talks with the Zimbabweans Wednesday by four ministers and by his oil adviser, Yahaya Dikkt, who is also the chairman of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Trade between Nigeria and Zimbabwe, a major producer of cotton, tobacco, sugar, gold, nickel and other minerals, has been small in the two years since Zimbabwe became independent. But Lagos gave Mr Mugabe's government $8 million to buy out South African control of the country's main newspaper chain. Nigeria has also trained army and air force officers for Zimbabwe and has offered some $13 million to help train civil servants.

HUNGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER STOPS IN KANO

AB192150 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Hungarian defense minister, Gen Lajos Czinege, today made a brief stopover at the Kano International Airport on his way to Angola on an official visit. He was met by the Kano state commissioner for home affairs and information, Alhaji (Hamsa Ahmed Bechi), and the Hungarian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Jozsef Bende.

Exchanging views with the defense minister, (Alhaji Ahmed Bechi) briefed him on the operation of the Nigerian Constitution and various development projects being executed by the state government for the upliftment of its people.

Earlier, the Hungarian minister had told the commissioner that his visit to Angola was aimed at improving the existing cordial relations between the two countries.

'EFFECTIVE MEASURES' NEEDED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

AB181227 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] The present situation of blacks under apartheid in South Africa is the worst since the death in detention of jailed black leader Steve Biko 5 years ago. After the outcry over Biko's death on 12 September 1977, there was hope for a significant change in the situation in that country. But the latest report on activities of the apartheid government against blacks indicate that the situation has got worse. There have been several signs that the South African Government has been resisting all plans for peaceful changes in the apartheid enclave. The Pretoria regime has continued its heartless oppression of nationalists in the country. For instance, two nationalists have died in jail this year. The government of Botha has also extended the Bantu orders restricting the activities of black activists and excluding the country's black majority from any political role in its proposal for a limited sharing of power with Asian and colored people.

What the notorious government is proposing to do is rather to enact a false legislation for the movement and settlement of black people. This decpetive legislation is designed to tighten the screws on the black population thereby making the situation worse than ever. The apartheid regime's recalcitrant policy is being fuelled by its continued acquisition of arms calculated to strengthen the grip of its oppression on the majority black population. The atrocities of the apartheid government are multidimensional. These atrocities range from humiliation of the black population especially in commercial ventures to their total exclusion from political participation in the country.

Besides, the racist regime has extended its rebellious and obnoxious policies in Namibia. By defying the United Nations on many occasions on the Namibian independence issue, the racist government, in its recalcitrant, arrogant and obnoxious policies, capitally demonstrates insensitivity to the voice of the world. And to divert world attention from its internal atrocities, the South African Government has further extended its aggression to Angola and Zimbabwe. While it occupies some Angolan territories, the racist regime encourages terrorist activities in Zimbabwe and even liaises with outside secret agencies to topple outspoken legitimate government in Africa. The racist government has not only shown a growing swollen head but has also arrogantly heightened power to an unprecedented level. South Africa has defied the world and committed atrocities against God and humanity to an extent that contravention of human rights has become its stock in trade.

The brutal massacre of innocent blacks in Sharpeville and Soweto by racist soldiers some years ago is still fresh in the people's memory. It is also on record that many nationalist leaders have died in prison custody while others were executed for questioning or challenging the legitimacy of apartheid in South Africa. The Pretoria regime has maintained deaf ears to appeals from various parts of the world for the release of the black nationalist leader, Nelson Mandela, who has been serving life imprisonment for the past 2 decades.

With South Africa's refusal to accept peaceful changes and renounce its atrocities, it is now clear that the continued suppression of the rights of blacks in that territory have become a fait accompli. The United Nations must have become disillusioned at the reluctance of the apartheid government to give peace a chance. The black population in South Africa has been so much oppressed that the situation in the country calls for an urgent change.

The United nations and the OAU should do something now to save the defenseless blacks from further oppression. It is high time more effective measures were taken against the apartheid regime by the United Nations. The United Nations should not maintain closed lips on the latest atrocities of the racist government (?if the) the efforts of the committee against apartheid and those of the liberation committee of the OAU are appreciated. It would be much more meaningful if the two international bodies adopt and apply more stringent measures that will ultimately compel the apartheid government to modify its obnoxious policies. This will go a long way to liberate the oppressed blacks of South Africa from the bondage of racial discrimination and genocide.

SIERRA LEONE

STEPHENS ASSURES LABOR LEADERS OF SUPPORT

AB192131 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The president, Dr Siaka Stevens, today assured labor leaders that as a product of trade unionism, he could not by any (?stretch) of imagination be against the interests of workers or their union.

President Stevens, who was addressing 48 representatives of the Labor Congress presented to him by the minister of labor, urged the new executive to sink their differences and get together to solve the problems of the country. He assured them that nothing could give him maximum pleasure than to strengthen trade unionism and improve the lot of the workers in the country.

In presenting the new executive, the minister of labor, Mr S.B. Nara, described the congress as the brain child of Dr Stevens that was born and nurtured in 1976 by reuniting the Sierra Leone Council of Labor with the Sierra Leone Labor Congress to form a strong central organization.

Recalling what he described as the turbulent climate of industrial relations of 1981, Mr Mara noted how President Stevens' magnanimity helped to normalize the situation and restored peace. He assured the president that from the experience gained, all parties had realized their different roles and accepted the fact that though industrial relations were primarily matters for trade unions and employers, yet there was also government's responsibility to safeguard (?the country's community) interests.

ANGOLA

ANGOP REPORTS ARCHBISHOP, NUNS KIDNAPPED

AB201820 Luanda ANGOP in French 1645 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Lubango, 20 Oct (ANGOP) -- Dom Alexandre do Nascimento, the Lubango Diocese archbishop, disappeared last weekend while he was traveling in a Red Cross vehicle along the road between Tchangongo and Ngiva, an Angolan district in Cunene Province still under racist South Africa's occupation, religious circles in Lubango and Luanda reported.

According to the sources ANGOP contacted in the town, there is concern about the prelate's life because, as everyone knows, the racist South Africans show respect for nothing in their murderous furor. This is not the first time that vehicles with the Red Cross banner have been machinegunned by the South African Air Force. Furthermore, hospitals and other health centers are the principal targets of the assassins' Mirage jets.

According to reports received by ANGOP, Archbishop Dom Alexandre do Nascimento was on his way to the Roman Catholic mission of Mongua on a pastoral visit. It must be stressed that even during South Africa's most violent raids against Angola, this prelate always tried to closely follow the activities of the missions under his authority.

Last Friday, the archbiship visited the Tchiolo hospital, which was attacked last August by racist South Africa. Following the visit he then set out toward Mongua and he has been unaccounted for since then.

The lives of he three religious sisters in the same vehicle are also reportedly feared for.

In the town of Lubango, however, it is believed that the archbishop and the three sisters might have been captured alive by the South African soldiers, who usually hand over their victims to their lackeys, the Angolan puppets.

In fact, as everyone knows, the Angolan counterrevolutionaries in the pay of Pretoria attempted recently to step up their terrorist acts against religous institutions. As a result, several clergymen have been killed during the past few months or simply taken into the forest where they are subjected to all sorts of provocative and humiliating acts.

It is apparent now that Pretoria's lackeys want to make impossible the missionary activities of the churches in the southern provinces of Angola, taking advantage of the military cover provided by their masters, who continue to occupy great parts of Angola's Cunene Province by force.

During recent months, several missionaries in the hands of South Africa's lackeys have been killed, which is a contradiction of the campaign launched to make the public believe that their attacks are aimed at Angola's armed forces. Religious institutions and churches are ransacked and destroyed. South Africans and their Angolan lackeys deliberately want to track down the religious congregations working in total freedom in the People's Republic of Angola.

Lubango Archbishop Dom Alexandre do Nascimento had throughout the long colonial and fascist rule been victimized by the disreputable police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State [PIDE] and the Directorate General for Security [DGS] because of his views as a champion of the legitimate aspiration of the Angolan people for freedom and independence.

Dom Alexandre do Nascimento is 58 and was born in the Angolan province of Malanje. During the colonial period he was arrested on the order of the PIDE/DGS and was later put under house arrest for 10 years in Portugal. Also, 2 weeks ago the Lubango archbishop was in Cunene Province on a pastoral visit.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL LEAVES FOR TALKS WITH ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT

EA201240 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] President Samora Machel left Maputo this morning for Quelimane, where he will meet his Zambian counterpart Kenneth Kaunda.

The Mozambique presidential delegation included Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, Security Minister Jacinto Veloso, Finance Minister Rui Baltasar Alves and Minister of Ports and Land Transport Alcantara Santos. The delegation also includes Lt Gen Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, chief of the General Staff of the Mozambique Armed Forces; Fernando Honuana, special adviser to the president of the republic; and Daniel Mbanze, Mozambican ambassador in Lusaka.

Talks Begin

MB201253 Maputo in English to South Africa 1100 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] President Samora Machel is meeting President Kaunda today at the Mozambican coastal town of Quelimane. President Samora left Maputo this morning for talks, but there are no details yet of the topics under discussion. President Samora is accompanied at the meeting by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano; Security Minister Jacinto Veloso; Finance Minister Rui Baltasaralves; Transport Minister Alcantara Santos; and the deputy defence minister, Lieutenant General Mabote.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE MINISTRY DENIES ANGOLAN KIDNAP CHARGE

AB201715 Paris AFP in French 1635 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Pretoria, 20 Oct (AFP) — On Wednesday afternoon, the South African Ministry of Defense categorically denied an allegation made by the Angolan Press Agency to the effect that South African troops had kidnapped the archbishop of Lubango and three nuns in Angola's Huila Province.

In an interview with AFP, a spokesman for the Ministry of Defense in Pretoria said that the accusation "constituted a particularly weak attempt at propaganda being made by the Marxist government in Luanda." The spokesman added that by spreading such tales the Angolan Government is attempting to cover up its failure to defeat UNITA and is trying to make South Africa responsible for its problems." He finally said it is "common knowledge that the Luanda government has virtually lost control of the situation in Angola."

The Angolan agency, ANGOP, asserted that Archbishop Alexandre do Nascimento and three nuns, whose identities were not disclosed, were arrested last Friday by South African soldiers while they were traveling in a Red Cross vehicle. The agency added that several missionaries who were kidnapped during recent weeks by the South African Army had been handed over to UNITA "counterrevolutionaries."

COLUMNIST CALLS FOR CANDOR FROM DEFENSE FORCES

MB201215 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 13 Oct 82 p 15

[Denis Beckett "Frontline" column: "Is SA Destabilizing Its Neighbors by Being Silent?"]

[Text] Are we, or are we not, destabilizing our neighbors?

I dont know; and even if I was certain that we are, I would not be able to say so. We have laws prohibiting us from knowing things about our country that anyone abroad can find out if he wishes.

It is often difficult to decide how useful these laws are, because anyone seeking information barred to him can simply go to the nearest Central News Agency branch and page through TIME, NEWSWEEK, THE ECONOMIST, or other overseas publications. A few years ago there was an attempt to prevent dissemination of a report in NEWSWEEK particularly unflattering to the then premier, Mr B.J. Vorster. The relevant pages were inked over. The attempt was a hopeless failure.

The effort was futile in the face of the enthusiasm of countless people, who otherwise would not even have been aware of the report, and subscribers who received their copies without the ink did a roaring business photocopying the offending pages.

It seems the authorities themselves consider the task of removing offending articles from international periodicals impossible.

In any case, any person determined to be informed can very easily tune in to one of the various "freedom radio" stations. I would be eager to hear what they have to say, but I am all thumbs when it comes to radio wavelengths and can hardly home in on anything more difficult than Springbok radio.

Needless to say, the version the listener gets in this way is not totally accurate or objective, but because he believes that he is not getting an accurate picture from the South African media, he reacts accordingly. He can put the two together and believe something in between, or he can accept the version that sounds more attractive. (This latter is, naturally, senseless, but one that has a tradition, and not only among those who like what they hear over the "freedom radio" stations.) Or he can subscribe to any of a wide range of specialist periodicals about Africa, which will tell him a whole lot on the subject. Most of these are not prohibited, and one doubts whether there is any effective machinery to bar those that are.

What it boils down to is that the type of person who really wants to make use of information about military activities outside our borders has ample opportunity to obtain it. Only the man in the street is in the dark. This may be good for his peace of mind, because the stories published abroad about such things will not exactly strengthen his faith in the integrity of his leaders and their claims to Christianity. Still, one would hope that the average South African would be regarded as adult enough to understand such things.

He would realize that the defense force has no hesitation in rejecting most of these accusations. But he will also realize -- and this will trouble him -- that a large number of the overseas media treat the defense force denials in much the same way as Argentine news bulletins treated the Falklands War. In the end, whatever the defense force says is treated with scepticism. Thus there are few who will believe that the three who were shot in Zimbabwe recently -- members of our army -- were on an unauthorized mission, even if this were the case.

Another consequence is the general practice by our neighboring states, especially Zimbabwe and Mozambique, of blaming everything that goes wrong with them on sabotage by South African agents. So most people on the subcontinent focus their hatred on the "racist regime" in South Africa, which to them is the source of all evil.

The top men in the South African Defense Force must be credited with having more wisdom and intelligence than to believe that the country is best served by creating chaos in our neighboring states. Yet they are accused of doing precisely that.

Permit me to ask a question -- but please do not label it as a political one -- it is simply a matter of logic:

Does it further the interests of the South African Defense Force if they are believed by no one except those who are predisposed to support them?

If not, would the army not be better served if it were "open" about its activities and made a regular practice of this so that we, as well as our overseas critics, will believe what we are told by our military authorities?

SADF Spokesman Replies

MB201310 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 15 Oct 82 p 14

[Brig Gen Kobus Bosman, public relations director for the South African Defense Force, reply to Denis Beckett's "Frontline Column"]

[Text] In the first place, let us make it clear that we are not replying directly to the columnist, but that we wish to use this opportunity to make a few general comments about that kind of view, especially to those who have not already prejudged the issue.

The question that is particularly posed by the South African army is, can people still doubt that Russian expansionism is at the root of all the problems of southern Africa?

The Soviets and their surrogates -- the Cubans, East Germans, North Koreans and others -- have for years been propping up shaky Marxist allies in Africa with the aim of promoting their own colonialism. There can be no doubt about this. What causes concern is that these Russian attempts at imperialism are gaining a semblance of respectability.

The army also finds it peculiar that recently, in some circles, our reaction to this Marxist propaganda should become suspect. Even more strangely, some people in this country seem to join the Marxist choir so readily, labeling the army and South Africa as destablizers.

One accepts that there are many who would like to believe the Marxist propaganda and even to help spread it. On the other hand, one worries that there may be those who allow themselves to be taken in by this propaganda. This is proof of the effectiveness of the propaganda onslaught.

On the other hand, these same voices are silent when it comes to the misery suffered by our neighbors, whom we have supposedly destabilized. Nobody complains about the price these neighboring states have to pay for the destabilizing effects of Russian expansionism.

No complaints are heard about the total economic collapse, lack of personal or political freedom, state control of the media and many other freedoms lost in the name of Marxism. The fact is that many of the southern African states, because of corruption, economic pressures, the ways in which their populations are made up and so on, find it difficult to govern their people. The easiest way out is to blame South Africa for all their ills -- with evident success. The hope is that attention will be drawn away from their own problems, and that these problems will cease to exist.

In return for moral support, these countries then allow their Marxist allies to establish themselves in an open attempt to establize the situation in southern Africa. Not much is said about this.

It is ironic that when South Africa tries to make its own people aware of this onslaught, it is accused of crying, "Wolf!" Yet when others cry "wolf," there are pious voices asking if South Africa or the Defense Force is not, perhaps, the wolf.

Regarding the army's reluctance to be outspoken, it would surely be naive to inform the enemy that on a certain day or date we plan an operation against them. As for responding to accusations by the enemy, there are three reasons why the South African Defense Force is not always prepared to do so:

1. Some neighboring states, for example Angola, haven't the faintest idea what is happening in their countries. They are simply not in control of things. These states are fed lies by elements such as SWAPO and their own forces as these elements attempt to get assistance or to conceal misdeeds.

This lack of information and its effect on the local population and on the success of the resistance movements lead to attempts at propaganda in the form of accusations of invasions, campaigns and destabilization, all of them totally fictitious.

If the defense force either denies or confirms these accusations by quoting facts and figures on the deployment of its forces, it will be helping elements like SWAPO to supplement or to confirm their sketchy information.

2. Then there is the matter of the flood of propaganda from the so-called "freedom radio" stations of Africa. If the defense force had to respond to each of the literally hundreds of propaganda reports from these quarters, it would not only lend the reports unwarranted credence, but it would also have taken on the full-time task of trying to unravel the untruths and half-truths. The army is not just a sounding board for propaganda mongers and gimmicks.

3. Finally, it makes no sense to hand the enemy information about our operations on a platter. Because the enemy lacks sources of information, he depends almost entirely on public resources such as the radio and the press to help him monitor the movements of the security forces. It is our belief that the public will accept the defense force's policy of silence in these matters, in the interests of the security of our men in the operational area, neither the enemy's propaganda, nor even his misconceptions can discredit this policy.

The defense force is aware that its handling of propaganda frustrates the enemy -- we regret that in the process well-meaning people are also frustrated. The answer does not lie in speaking of a lack of credibility when it suits one. Perhaps an attack on the Marxist propaganda machine would be more appropriate.

In conclusion, the defense force believes it has the right to expect all South Africans -- whether white, black or brown -- to be favorably inclined toward lending a hand or, as Beckett put it, to be "predisposed to support."

Even a dissenting columnist should have no reason to feel differently about the South African Defense Force. We do not support a political party -- we stand in the service of all South Africa's inhabitants.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE CHARGES NKOMO PLANNED SOVIET-AIDED COUP

AB201254 Paris AFP in English 1158 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Harare, Oct 20 (AFP) -- Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has made his clearest accusation to date that a plan existed to overthrow his government with Soviet-bloc military backing at independence in 1980 and install his long-time rival, Joshua Nkomo.

In a television interview with local journalists screened here last night, Mr Mugabe said the plan was known as "zero hour" and had been drafted as early as 1976, when his Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and Mr Nikomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) joined in an uneasy political-military alliance called the Patriotic Front against Ian Smith's Rhodesian regime.

Under the plan, Mr Mugabe said, "When ZANU had won elections (as it did in February 1980, trouncing ZAPU), certain targets would have been attacked inside Zimbabwe. There would have been an occupation force.

"It was believed that what MPLA (the ruling, Soviet-backed party in Angola) did to UNITA (Jonas Savimbi's opposition movement) could be done to us", Mr Mugabe said. "That was the analogy".

According to authoritative accounts of the Angolan civil war, Cuban troops intervened on the side of the MPLA at independence in November 1975 and helped drive UNITA back from Luanda to the southern reaches of the country where it is still active, with South African support.

Mr Mugabe did not state explicitly that ZAPU's "zero-hour" plan had been approved by an foreign power. Nor did he expand on his reference to an occupation force.

But senior security sources in his party said today that ZANU had understand such a force would have included Soviet-bloc military elements, most probably Cubans.

Leading ZANU members have complained for some time, generally in private, about what they saw as Mr Nkomo's wartime strategy of holding back the bulk of his guerrilla forces in Zambia, where they were based, to move later against the Mugabe forces after the defeat of the white regime.

The Soviet Union provided extensive material support for Mr Nkomo's ZIPRA army, including training and sophisticated weaponry, through the seven-year bush war for black rule in Zimbabwe. Mr Mugabe's forces, refused Soviet aid, had to fall back on China, Yugoslavia, Pakistan and other countries for assistance and arms.

The security sources said Mr Mugabe had not wanted to "open old wounds" by being too specific about the alleged external support for a coup in favor of Mr Nkomo. The Soviet Union was finally allowed to open an embassy in Harare more than a year after independence, and after pledging that it would not have contact with any individual Zimbabwean political grouping, only the government. Moscow has now begun to offer some training programmes for young Zimbabwean civilians.

However, the sources said, the prime minister had felt it necessary to give some background to the serious view his government took of the problem of renegade former Nkomo guerrillas who for the past eight months -- since Mr Nkomo was fired from cabinet on plotting charges -- have been committing acts of political violence in the southwest.

These "dissidents" were only doing what they had been prepared for over the past six years, Mr Mugabe said.

Mr Nkomo and his aides have denied that ZAPU is encouraging the dissidents, as Mr Nkomo denied the large cashes of arms found on party properties early this year were to have been used against the government. This was Mr Mugabe's rationale for firing Mr Nkomo.

But Mr Mugabe said last night that ZAPU's "top leadership has not sufficient courage to admit that this was our strategy. These are our dissidents, because the acceptance of that is a real danger to themselves".

The Zimbabwe prime minister said that whatever plan ZAPU had had, "It was insanity to believe that after defeating the enemy (the white regime) as we did, some small party could marshal the forces to defeat us."

Mr Mugabe's statements were not the first sign of ZANU's long memory with regard to ZAPU-Soviet contacts.

When Mr Nkomo's top military aides, Dumiso Dabengwa and Lookout Masuku, were charged with treason in July, Attorney General Godfrey Chidyausiku said Mr Dabengwa had in April 1980 written to the intelligence services of a foreign state asking for help in mounting resistance to Mr Mugabe's newly elected government.

Although the attorney general did not specify the foreign intelligence service, the senior security sources said today that it was the KGB.

MUGABE, BOTSWANSA'S MASIRE TO HOLD BORDER TALKS

MB201421 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, says talks will be held with botswana about what he calls "dissidents and bandits" who are fleeing across the border seeking political asylum.

He said in Harare that the Zimbabwe national army was having remarkable success in tracking down those people who had resorted to armed robbery, banditry and other criminal activity.

It was the first time the Zimbabwe Government had linked Botswana with internal dissidents whom it blamed for a recent wave of violence in the Matabeleland Province.

Mr Mugabe said he hoped to raise the matter with President Quett Masire next week.

Zimbabwean troops and policemen launched a massive search recently in Matabeleland for armed dissidents said by the government to be disgruntled former bush fighters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's disbanded ZIPRA [Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army] Army.

In the meantime, Mr Mugabe has left on a 4-day visit to Nigeria and Ghana. In Nigeria his talks will center on oil supplies and possible assistance to Zimbabwe, and in Ghana, on his country's manpower needs.

MINISTER OF STATE ON MOZAMIBQUE REFUGEES

MB191858 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The minister of state in the prime minister's office responsible for security, Comrade Munangagwa, says there about 10,000 Mozambican refugees in Zimbabwe. Comrade Manangagwa told the Senate today that dissidents and bandits of the South African-backed Mozambique Resistance Movement who try to enter Zimbabwe under the cover of refugees are always identified indirectly by the security forces. He said the refugees are cleared by the security officers before being handed over to the minister of labor and social services where they are looked after and repatriated to suitable areas. He said the Governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe contantly hold talks on the situation.

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